LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 435,000

No 63,290

THE TIMES

FRIDAY JANUARY 13 1989

30p

The University of Jordan Library

Inflation set to get worse says Lawson

Latest figure will be 'close to 7 per cent'

- **Mr Lawson, in a pre-emptive strike against policy critics, said inflation would be close to 7 per cent.**
- **British economic renaissance was set to go on, he told MPs. Growth this year will be slower than the past two years.**
- **The Prime Minister backed him in his fight against inflation, even at the cost of higher rate for the pound.**
- **Labour demanded, but again failed to get, mortgage interest payments included in the retail price index.**

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The inflation figure is likely to get a good deal worse before it gets better, Mr Nigel Lawson indicated yesterday.

In a clear attempt to take the steam out of the issue in advance, the Chancellor of the Exchequer signalled that the December figure, due to be announced next Friday, would be close to 7 per cent.

As MPs debated his autumn statement on the Government's spending intentions Mr Lawson again made plain his opposition to the inclusion of mortgage interest rates within the retail price index calculation.

He confessed that the mortgage element would add half a per cent to the latest figures.

Mr Lawson said the Republic of Ireland was the only other country in the European Community "daft enough" to include mortgage interest payments in its retail price index.

"So, for example, next week's RPI figure for December will show a further rise of almost 0.5% – simply because a mortgage rate fall made the December 1987 index artificially low – even if there was no change in underlying inflation at all."

The Chancellor said yesterday that there is likely to be a meeting of the Group of Seven finance ministers and central bankers in the next few weeks.

Parliament 10
Political sketch 20
Secret budgetry 21

Since last month's figure was 6.4 per cent that alone would bring the index close to 7 per cent, unless there are seasonal fluctuations in food prices to counteract it.

With further mortgage interest rates this month to feed through over the next few weeks inflation will inevitably rise significantly above 7 per cent.

Ministers are worried by a spiral of increased wage demands after increased housing costs. Mr Lawson has warned the Confederation of British Industry that manufacturers have to keep down their unit costs to remain competitive.

The Chancellor said yesterday that the underlying inflation rate – excluding mortgage rises – was likely to edge up to 5.5 per cent over the next few months before falling once more.

But he did not revise his forecast, made at the time of the autumn statement in November, that the full inflation rate would drop again to 5 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1989.

After Mr Lawson had clashed with Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, over European practices in including housing costs in RPI calculations, there were more Opposition predictions that the Government would seek to remove the mortgage figures from the RPI.

But Mr Lawson and the Prime Minister have already once put that idea to the committee responsible for the RPI assessment without success.

Mr Lawson, who announced that Budget Day would be March 14, underlined his intention to make the battle against inflation his priority.

Earlier, during question time, the Prime Minister firmly backed Mr Lawson in his fight against inflation – even at the cost of a higher exchange rate for the pound.

The Chancellor wasted little sympathy on home-owners feeling the pinch from higher mortgage interest rates.

"In a society which treats people like adults, it must be for individuals to decide for themselves how much it is sensible for them to borrow".

When Labour raised with the Chancellor reports that the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, had urged him not to cut taxes again, Mr Lawson replied only that his conversations with Mr Leigh-Pemberton were cordial – and private.

Mr Lawson said that the Government was acting firmly "to deal with the sort of inflationary pressures that emerged in the second half of last year, when it became clear that total spending in the economy was growing at a wholly unsustainable rate.

"That is why interest rates have had to rise".

Mr Lawson said high interest rates were likely to reverse what he conceded was a "dramatic" drop in personal savings and have an effect on Britain's current account trade deficit.

Labour MPs again cheered a robust attack on the Chancellor from Mr Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chief Secretary.

He said that the Chancellor's speech was the predictable response of a man who had just heard that his last remaining policy, higher interest rates, had been rejected by his last remaining friend, the Governor of the Bank of England. "He is a one-club man who has now become a one-man club."

Thirty-five days after being buried beneath the Armenian rubble, six men are brought out alive



Mr Akopyan being cared for in Leninakan yesterday after being rescued with five other men. He used his medical knowledge to relieve the others' injuries.

Boeing rules out crossed wires in M1 air disaster

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Boeing engineers were "as certain as can be" last night that the fire warning system on the crashed British Midland jet could not have been wired the wrong way round. Yesterday's checks by British airlines on 37 aircraft with similar engines and systems also failed to uncover any indication of mis-wiring.

In the absence of such evidence, crash investigators are still no nearer to solving the riddle of why the aircraft's right engine was shut down while the left developed a fire. And they still do not know whether instruments on the flight deck were misinterpreted.

They are waiting to put further questions to Captain Kevin Hunt, the pilot, who was ordered to have a complete rest in Leicester Royal Infirmary yesterday. Only his wife and medical staff were allowed to see him. Doctors hope, however, that he may be moved out of intensive care within a few days. The co-pilot, First Officer David McClelland, is so poorly that he has been questioned for only a few minutes.

As the Prime Minister and Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, became embroiled in a political dispute about the handling of the investigation yesterday – with Mr Prescott demanding the resignation of Mr Ed Trimble, the head of the crash inquiry, for remarks he made about evidence – Boeing engineers explained why they believe faulty wiring cannot be blamed for the crash of the Boeing 737-400 and the loss of 44 lives.

They said fire warning circuits for each engine were tested before being plugged into a logic board at the back of the aircraft's instrument panel. They were checked again before the aircraft underwent a test flight. At each stage of the manufacturing process, a senior engineer from the airline customer monitored what was being done.

Once the aircraft passed all its checks on the ground, its systems were tested in the air,

Switchboard failure 2
Seating research 2
Letters 13

the engineers said. Although no specific test was made in flight of the individual wiring circuits, Boeing said it was highly unlikely that such a fundamental manufacturing fault would not have been picked up either by Boeing's own test pilot or by the customer.

When aircraft were delivered to their final destination, a team of about 30 engineers spent at least a full day stripping down the engine and main parts to make one final inspection, Boeing said.

Yesterday, airlines around the world carried out their own tests on the wiring of the engines in their Boeing 737-300s and 737-400s after a directive from both Britain and America. They found no faults in the fire warning lights.

The warning lights are routinely checked before each flight. However, to establish whether each individual circuit is properly wired, the airlines yesterday isolated each engine and passed an electrical current along the wire, ensuring that it lit up the correct fire warning lever in the cockpit.

At the same time, each airline with CFM 56-3 engines subjected them to a rigorous examination for any sign of a repeat of the problem that caused the fire in the British Midland aircraft's left engine.

They passed a small fibre-optic tube fitted with a light and a prism, known as a borescope, into the combustion chambers, the high pressure turbine blade area and fuel nozzles, to detect signs of wear and tear or cracks.

They also drained a small quantity of oil from the sump of the engines and subjected it to spectrographic analysis to ensure there were no tiny pieces of metal, indicating an early stage of damage to moving parts in the engine. They took off a magnetic device attached to the oil sump that picks up metal particles. By late last night, no sign of damage had been found.

Yesterday afternoon, the first of the British-owned 737-400s that had been grounded after Sunday's crash took to the air again. The Dan-Air flight from Gatwick to Malta carried 163 passengers.

British Airways, which had put checks into effect the day before they were requested by

Continued on page 20, col 2



Mr Ed Trimble: A call to resign from inquiry.

Survivors were trapped in cellar

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

In a triumph of human survival, six men were reported yesterday to have been rescued alive from the rubble of Leninakan, five weeks after the earthquake which devastated parts of Armenia.

They were discovered on Wednesday, 19 days after the last confirmed report of survivors being rescued, in a cellar beneath the ruins of a nine-storey apartment block. Tass reported that they survived because the cellar was stocked with provisions. They lived on jars of salted food, vegetables, fruit and smoked ham.

Hope of finding more survivors of the December 7 earthquake, in which more than 25,000 people died, had long since been abandoned. The news was greeted with joy by Armenians living in Britain and by British surgeons who flew out to join the rescue effort in mid-December.

Bishop Yeghishe Gizirian, Primate of the Armenian Church, told *The Times*: "I am really thrilled by this news. It is a surprise after so many days."

Mrs Nouritza Matossian, a member of the Aid Armenia Disaster Committee, said: "I find it absolutely incredible that anyone should survive so long. It is wonderful news."

Mr Anthony Redmond, a consultant who led a team of eight specialists and anaesthetists to Armenia, said he was "absolutely delighted".

Assuming the Soviet reports prove accurate, the two Armenian churches in London, serving a community estimated at 12,000, will celebrate the men's survival during a special Mass on Sunday which had already been arranged to mark the 40th day of the disaster.

The Tass report, which came from Yerevan, the Armenian capital, could not be independently confirmed from London because of poor telephone links. But as it was supported by a photograph and an interview with one of the survivors, it was likely to be accurate. Last week a French radio station reported that 17 people had been pulled alive from the ruins of a grain silo in the town of Spitak, but this was later denied.

Five of the six men appear

Continued on page 20, col 6

ADVERTISEMENT

Why Are You Shamed By Your Mistakes In English?



Shamed By Your English?

A SIMPLE technique for acquiring a swift mastery of good English has just been announced. It can double your powers of self-expression. It can pay you real dividends in business and social advancement, and give you added poise, self-confidence and personal effectiveness.

The details of this method are described in a fascinating book, "Good English – the Language of Success", sent free on request.

Respect

Many people do not realise how much they could influence others simply by speaking and writing with greater power, authority and precision. Whether you are presenting a report, training a child, fighting for a cause, making a sale, writing an essay, or asking for a rise... your success depends upon the words you use.

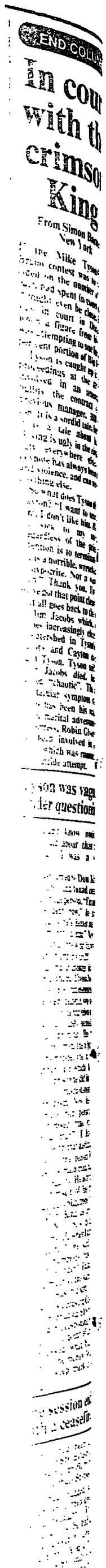
Now the right words are yours to command! A unique, new system of self-instruction speedily gives you a thorough grounding in every aspect of effective English – grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing and speaking.

Never again need you fear those embarrassing mistakes. You can quickly and easily be shown how to ensure that your speech and writing will be crisp, clear, *correct*. You can enormously increase your vocabulary, speed up your reading, enhance your powers of conversation.

What's more, good English commands respect. It can help you to cut through many barriers to social, academic and business success.

Free

To acquaint all readers of The Times with this easy-to-follow method for developing mastery of English, we, the publishers, have printed full details in a fascinating book "Good English – the Language of Success", sent free on request. No obligation. Simply fill in and return the coupon on Page16(no need even to stamp your envelope), or write to Practical English Programme (Dept. TSE5), FREEPOST, London WC2E 9BR.



TOMORROW IN COLOUR



Heat and camel dust

- Holy men mix with hippies during the camel fair at the Indian city of Pushkar, where you can snap up a ship of the desert for £200. Tomorrow *The Times* goes to market.
- The ultimate home-makers: *The Times* looks at the rewards and pitfalls of building your own timber-frame house.
- Five across: the winners of the Christmas Jumbo Crossword competition.

WIN £96,000

Portfolio PLUS *Accumulator*

- Yesterday's £4,000 daily prize was shared by Mrs Olive Marshall, of Canterbury; Mr John Green, of Northwood, and Mrs Jennifer Booth, of Harrogate. The Accumulator fund stands at £96,000.

Prices: page 26

INDEX

Home News 2,3,5
Overseas 6-8
Business 21-28
Sport 32-36
Arts 16
Births, marriages, deaths 15
Business to business 29,30
Chess 2
City Diary 23
Court & social 14
Crosswords 18,20
Diary 12
Entertainments 16
Features 11,12,17
Information 18
Law Report 25
Leading articles 13
Letters 13
Motoring 30-32
Obituary 14
On This Day 12
Parliament 10
Saleroom 15
Schools 14
Science Report 14
Snow reports 34
TV & Radio 19
Weather 20

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Two inquiries will look at Plessey bid

By our City Staff

Both the Monopolies Commission and the European Commission are investigating the £1.7 billion bid by GEC Siemens for Plessey, the electronics, defence and telecommunications group.

The British investigation has been called because of fears over loss of competition in two key areas, defence electronics and traffic control equipment.

Meanwhile, the proposed consortium bid for GEC itself, which is not covered by either investigation at this stage, has still not appeared and there is mounting speculation that the proposal is running into trouble.

The Monopolies Commission investigation is scheduled to take three months, which will give the consortium time to prepare and submit detailed plans.

Bid referred, page 21

Probe into pre-cooked chicken

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Talks are being held between the Government and food industry to investigate reports that some pre-cooked chicken products have been found infected with a bacteria which can cause meningitis.

Whitehall is taking seriously growing concern about the rise in the occurrence of listeriosis linked with pre-cooked meals and the Government is working with the industry to address the problem, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, told MPs yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher was questioned on reports that 10 per cent of pre-cooked chicken products were infected with the bacteria. Figures from the Public Health Laboratory Service show that cases of listeriosis increased from 115 in 1983 to 259 in 1987, of which 59 proved fatal.

Mr Allen McKay, Labour MP for Barnsley West and Penistone, said it was as "dangerous or more dangerous than salmonella". The danger was in cooked food that was fast frozen and then reheated, and he demanded to know what was being done.

Egg doubts grow, page 2

Hurd condemns Gadaffi's role in arming IRA



Colonel Gadaffi: "Most dangerous supporter of IRA."

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

In the most forthright public condemnation yet by a British minister of Colonel Gadaffi's role in aiding terrorism, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday accused him of being "without doubt the most dangerous of the Provisional IRA's supporters".

A significant proportion of the explosives and weapons held by a few hundred active terrorists were shipped from Libya, Mr Hurd said in a speech in Rome at Italy's principal police academy.

Condemning Colonel Gadaffi's role, he said: "We have proof that he has supplied them with tons of sophisticated weapons and large quantities of Semtex explosive. He has also provided them with ample funds and as recently as September reiterated his political support for them, describing their cause as 'just'. He also encouraged the Abu Nidal organization by allowing them to maintain their headquarters in Tripoli."

Mr Hurd's disclosures are based on evidence available from recent arms seizures, from police investigations and from recent IRA attacks in Europe. The speech follows warnings last month by Britain to its European allies not to be taken in by Col Gadaffi's bid to ingratiate himself with the West in a so-called "charm offensive".

British concern emerged after a visit to Rome that week by the Libyan second-in-command, Major Abdel Jalloud, who met senior Italians, including Signor Ciriaco De Mita, the Prime Minister. Afterwards Italy announced it would "enlarge and intensify contacts with Libya".

Mr Hurd said that the Provisional IRA and other terrorists threatened both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and so co-operation between both security forces had increased and become more fruitful.

Mr Hurd added: "You will understand against this background why British and Irish Ministers are particularly emphatic about the need for strong and concerted European action against terrorism." He was speaking after he and the Italian Minister of the Interior, Signor Ministro Antonio Gava, signed an arrangement for co-operation to counter terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Gun raider beats security at BBC

A man believed to have been armed with a gun escaped with about £500 in cash last night after a robbery at the BBC's Broadcasting House headquarters in central London.

The raider, dressed as a motorcycle dispatch rider, held up a member of staff who had been collecting catering takings from around the building in Portland Place on a landing between the eight and ninth floors.

The police said no shots had been fired. A thorough search of the building – the home of BBC national radio – was carried out using dogs but the man had gone.

Short settles for draw

The thirteenth round of the Foreign and Colonial Hastings Grandmaster chess tournament was played yesterday when the leaders were clearly in cautious mood.

Nigel Short, playing his last game, was content to agree an early draw which sufficed to guarantee him at least a tie for first place with Viktor Korchnoi, who had scored a default in the penultimate round on Chandler's withdrawal.

Smyslov and Speelman played a steady 28 moves and also agreed a draw as neither could catch the leaders. That left only Boris Gulko versus Bent Larsen in progress, with neither player being interested in the top prizes.

Scores: Short 9 out of 14, Korchnoi 8 out of 13, Smyslov and Speelman 7 out of 13, Kosten 6 out of 13, Gulko and Larsen 5½ and one unfinished out of 13.

Landmark may fall

Mr Robert Maxwell, the newspaper publisher, has announced plans to demolish the red and blue Mirror building at Holborn Circus, central London. The City of London Corporation has received an application on behalf of Mr Maxwell's company Pergamon Holdings for outline planning permission to redevelop the site for offices and shops. Pergamon yesterday could not say whether Mirror Group Newspapers' staff would be rehoused in the proposed new development, or whether it would be sold.

PC sues force chief

A policeman is suing his chief constable for £4,500 after being struck by a piece of wood during riot shield training. PC Nathaniel Killen, aged 53, says he was singled out during a mock attack by colleagues who resented his complaints about the number injured during training. High Court Judge Mr Justice Roch, sitting at Mold Crown Court, was yesterday told the PC suffered a broken tooth and needed 10 stitches. PC Killen says Mr David Graham, Cheshire chief constable, who denies liability, was negligent in not providing adequate supervision. The case continues today.

Scargill defeated

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, suffered a double blow to his plans for entrenching the left wing in his union yesterday. A special delegate conference rejected a rule change that would have required candidates for national office to receive backing from 20 per cent of members before standing. Only Mr Scargill's 30,000-strong Yorkshire heartland could have delivered such support.

Rail deaths criticized

British Rail safety procedures were criticized yesterday in a Department of Transport report into the deaths of four track workers struck by a 65 mph train at Methley Junction in West Yorkshire in December 1987. The four and another working as a look-out for the gang were also blamed for operating an irregular warning system. The noise of power hammers being used drowned the sound of the approaching train. The report said there were shortcomings in the mens' training "that reflect little credit on British Rail locally".

Commons evidence 'adds to egg worries'

By Andrew Morgan

Evidence to the Commons agriculture select committee investigating levels of salmonella in eggs had heightened confusion among the public, the Consumers Association maintained last night.

The allegation was made as the Department of Health prepared to issue two million pamphlets on techiques to avoid food poisoning, including methods of cooking poultry and eggs to avoid salmonella.

The association said concern had deepened after Sir Donald Acheson, Chief Medical Officer, told the committee that there is a "serious health problem" and that the recent increase in reported cases "represents an epidemic".

His evidence was contested yesterday by egg producers, agricultural suppliers and the Ministry of Agriculture. Miss Anna Bradley, head of food and health at the Consumers Association, said: "The public is even more confused because the depth of the conflicting views is now apparent.

"Meanwhile, the concern grows. We are looking to the committee to sum it all up in three lines to allay fears or otherwise."

In the controversy over eggs there have been few areas of consensus. Salmonella has been recorded in the poultry industry for many years.

The Public Health Laboratory has reported a sharp increase in salmonella enteritidis, particuarly the strain's type four (PT4), which is found only in poultry. In November, it reported there had been 26 outbreaks of salmonella food poisoning, affecting up to 500 people, which could be traced to eggs. The Department of Health, which later increased that figure to 46 cases, issued a warning on the dangers of eating raw eggs.

That is virtually the limit of agreement. Other areas are riddled with contention and contradiction over the levels at which PT4 has penetrated chicken ovaries and infected the nation's eggs.

Sir Donald Acheson agrees that the chances of being infected are "very low" but, to the annoyance of producers, failed to contradict Mrs Edwina Currie, the former Under Secretary of State for Health, who said that "most egg production in this country is, sadly, infected".

The National Farmers Union and the British Poultry Federation say that tests on 150,000 eggs have not shown up a single one with salmonella.

The conflict is based on the scientific view that salmonella is getting into the ovaries of chickens and creating a sharp rise in cases of PT4 caused by eating eggs. Egg producers insist there is no evidence that PT4 has penetrated chicken ovaries.

Mrs Currie said that there were 11,000 cases this year of salmonella enteriditis, with 1,000 related to eggs.

Dr Richard Lacey, professor of Clinical Microbiology at the University of Leeds, says that, while most eggs are salmonella-free, one in 7,000 is infected and there are 10 times the number of PT4 cases as currently reported. He says that PT4 is present in many battery establishments and the feed of many chickens.

Some public health scientists suspect that is behind the upsurge in the PT4 strain. Foodstuffs producers insist their chicken offal is heat-treated to destroy all salmonella but critics say there is recontamination during bagging, milling and storage.

Dr Lacey suspects that a programme of testing would show that most flocks of chickens contain the salmonella bacteria and, when found, they should be destroyed and the hen houses sterilized.

Leading article, page 13

Thatcher in drive for safer ozone

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday underlined her commitment to tackling global climatic changes by chairing a meeting of ministers at Downing Street on the issue.

The meeting reviewed steps already taken to deal with atmospheric pollution, such as curbs on ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and discussed further action.

The agenda was drawn up by the Cabinet Office, based on submissions from across Whitehall. Ministers from at least eight departments were present, including the Foreign Office and the Treasury.

The first fruits of Mrs Thatcher's new-found determination to tackle the threat of widespread flooding, because of global warming caused by atmospheric pollution, are likely to be seen in March at the international conference on ozone depletion in London.

Politicians from nearly every country have been invited and the three-day gathering is likely to concentrate on persuading nations of the seriousness of the danger, and the urgent need for action.

By promising an 85 per cent cut in CFC emissions (mainly from aerosols) by the end of the century, Britain has already gone further than the Montreal Protocol which commits signatories to a 50 per cent reduction.

The Prime Minister believes domestic action of this sort will only have a marginal effect on what is a world-wide problem, and she is likely to use the meeting to persuade Third World countries, in particular, to adopt the same action.

She will want to help them to find CFC alternatives to make the transition easier.

At the second meeting of the Montreal Protocol parties in 1990, which the Government is hosting, she will press for general acceptance of the 85 per cent target.

Mrs Thatcher put global pollution at the top of the political agenda in her speech to the Royal Society last September, when she identified the greenhouse effect as one of three main dangers to the well-being of the planet.

Government sources said yesterday's meeting took no decisions. It was said the meeting was not preparatory to the March gathering.

A senior source said the meeting looked at "what has been done in the past and what is needed to be done".

"The Prime Minister and other ministers have been concerned for some time about the changes that are happening to the climate."

Mudd fights for her future



Miss Mandy Mudd, a former kissogram girl, arriving for her appearance before the Labour Party's national constitution committee yesterday, where she was fighting expulsion from the party. Miss Mudd is accused of conduct prejudicial to the party, after her protest at cuts to the Haringey Council budget imposed by Labour members. Miss Mudd was selected to fight the Haringey council seat previously held by Mr Bernie Grant, the Labour MP for Tottenham. She issued a statement after her selection, stating that Labour councillors should be prepared to "break laws designed to smash the working classes". Labour's national executive told the district Labour party that she must stand down because a member who is facing a disciplinary procedure is not eligible to be a party candidate. Party sources predicted last night that she would not be expelled, but could be debarred from standing as a candidate

BR picks King's Cross for tunnel link

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

King's Cross was chosen by British Rail yesterday as its preferred second international passenger terminal in London for Channel tunnel trains. It rejected Stratford in east London.

If approved, the station will be built below the surface, involving the demolition of homes and businesses. King's Cross was chosen to back up the first terminal at Waterloo because of its central location, links with the national rail network and superior interchange facilities.

Construction is subject to parliamentary approval and that of the Secretary of State for Transport.

Newham council, which backed Stratford, is likely to petition Parliament against the King's Cross Railways Bill, which has its second reading later this month, and to give evidence when the Bill reaches its committee stage.

The project will, if approved, cost about £250 million and provide a direct link between the railway network of continental Europe and key parts of British Rail's network.

The British Railways board also announced a £4 million redevelopment plan for Stratford. It includes reconstruction of the inner London commuter station, a new passenger train servicing depot, and a freight facility at Temple Mills.

Prince to visit Lockerbie

By Alan Hamilton

The Prince of Wales is going to visit Lockerbie on January 24 to see the aftermath of the air disaster in which 270 people died.

His appearance in the Scottish border town more than a month after the tragedy comes after criticism from some local people that no member of the Royal Family attended the memorial service for the victims last week.

The Duke of York visited the scene the morning after the crash, and said at the time that while he felt sorry for everyone concerned, he felt particularly sorry for the Americans involved.

Palace sources yesterday declined to elaborate on the reasons for the Prince's belated visit, but the Royal Family appears to have been stung by reported feeling in Lockerbie that it has paid only minimal heed to Britain's worst air disaster.

The Prince will visit the town on his way to Glasgow to launch the Scottish Youth Business Trust.

He is expected to meet local people and to see the remains of Sherwood Crescent, where the burnt-out shells of houses stand beside the huge hole gouged by the Pam Am Boeing 747 as its main section struck the ground.

M1 airliner crash

Mock disaster exposes failure of switchboard

By Tony Dawe

Britain's biggest switchboard failed to cope yesterday with thousands of calls from "anxious relatives" after a mock disaster that bore an uncanny similarity to the M1 jet crash.

More than 2,500 volunteers flooded British Telecom's Bristol centre, often used for large share flotations, with inquiries about the victims but the vast majority of calls went unanswered. Only one in four of the callers got through to the centre and most of them had to make several attempts.

Telecom and the emergency services hoped the Bristol switchboard might solve the problem that has distressed the real relatives of victims of recent disasters at Clapham Junction, Lockerbie and Kegworth, who have complained bitterly that emergency telephone numbers were always engaged. The authorities are seeking a switchboard to serve as Britain's emergency information centre and whose number would become as familiar as 999.

The first funeral of victims of the British Midland Boeing 737 air crash took place yesterday in Belfast with the burial of Mr Denis Moloney, a retired policeman, and his wife, Pearl. They were buried after a requiem mass at St Brigid's Roman Catholic Church which was attended by Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich, the Primate Of Ireland. The couple had been on their way home to Belfast after a weekend in London. Their son, Peter, a solictor, and daughter, Maria, a publicity officer for Harland and Wolff, the Northern Ireland ship-building firm, led the mourners.

But after yesterday's exercise, conducted by the Association of Chief Police Officers, one emergency planner told *The Times*: "The authorities will have to look for something bigger to deal with the sort of response generated by a major disaster".

The Comtest '89 exercise, funded by the Home Office, envisaged a British airliner on a domestic flight, like the doomed British Midland one, crashing on the main London to Sheffield railway line and derailing an InterCity train. The scenario was drawn up more than six months ago.

The volunteers, from the police, the British Red Cross and local authorities, were each given up to 12 "scripts" and instructed to call the Bristol switchboard at fixed times.

They were told to make six calls for each script and move on to the next script if all the calls failed. Emergency planners in Essex said their volunteers were only able to make inquiries about one in four of their relatives. Council officers in Yorkshire said that of 260 calls made by their volunteers, only 18 were answered.

They all reported, however, that the 40 telephone operators at Bristol handled most of the inquiries "sympathetically and efficiently". The results of the exercise will be evaluated by an independent team.

Comtest '89 was also designed to test the efficiency of a new computerized system for gathering information about people in a disaster.

The details of yesterday's "victims" were sent by computer from Bristol to a police incident room at Bradford, West Yorkshire, and processed by computer.

Surgeons given cash to study rear-facing seats

By a Staff Reporter

Surgeons treating victims of the M1 jet crash were given financial backing yesterday to help them to research the cause and nature of the injuries suffered and whether rear-facing seats and other changes in aircraft design could have reduced the casualties.

Nottingham Health Authority announced a £20,000 grant to provide research staff after being approached by hospital consultants during Wednesday's visit by the Prince of Wales to the Queen's Medical Centre, where 40 victims of the crash were taken. Professor Angus Wallace, of the orthopaedic and accident department, said: "Many of the injuries would have been different if the seats had been facing the other way.

"In this particular accident, passengers would have been better prepared for the crash if seats had faced backwards."

The issue of whether changes in the aircraft's seating and design could have saved more lives and prevented some of the more serious injuries is also being studied by government crash investigators. Their report is likely to include a chapter on the "survivability" of the accident. Any government decision to change the position of aircraft seating would involve more, however, than just turning the seats round.

The seats would have to be strengthened and the rails supporting them repositioned and also made stronger.

"A passenger sitting in a forward-facing seat puts the load straight into the seatbelt, which transfers it via the side of the seat to the rear legs and down to the seat rail". Mr Tony Jackson-Wynch, chief designer of Flight Engineering and Equipment, the seat manufacturers, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, said yesterday. "In an aft-facing seat, the load goes into the back, which therefore needs to be structured more strongly, and then has to be transferred into the frame structure and into the rail."

Rear-facing seats are heavier therefore than front-facing ones. Airlines always want the lightest possible components in their aircraft so the extra weight and passengers' dislike of sitting with their back to the cockpit have discouraged them from making any changes.

Letters, page 13

Building chiefs to face prosecution

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Building company board members are to be personally prosecuted as part of a government drive to reduce deaths and injuries in the construction industry.

Mr Tony Linehan, chief inspector of factories, made that clear yesterday as the Health and Safety Executive released figures of its "blitz campaign". It showed that out of 8,272 sites visited, at one out of four work had to be halted until potential death traps were put right.

Over an 18-month period ending last September, safety inspectors visited sites and took photographs of situations which put workmen and the public at risk.

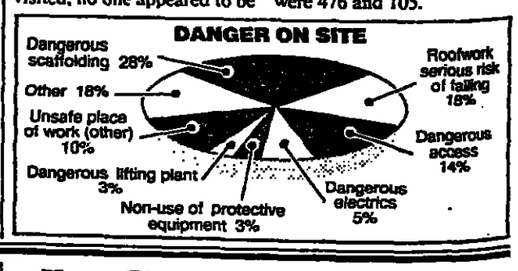
Attempts by inspectors to assess the knowledge of agents, foremen and supervisors in charge of sites provided disturbing information. On 19 per cent of the sites visited, no one appeared to be in charge. A further 33 per cent in control of sites were considered to have an inadequate level of knowledge about safety requirements.

On some sites, workmen were photographed on narrow walkways high above the ground with no safety railings. On others bare mains-supplied electricity wires were powering concrete mixers amid a drizzle of water.

Last year, more than 150 men died on building sites.

Last night, Mr Albert Williams, of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, welcomed the blitz but said a planned increase in the number of inspectors from 90 to 100 was inadequate.

A league table shows that Glasgow came off worst with 55 site visits leading to 51 prohibition orders being served. For London, the figures were 476 and 105.



DISPOSAL AUCTION NOTICE
OF
PERSIAN CARPETS, RUGS AND RUNNERS
AND OTHER HAND KNOTTED EASTERN CARPETS
AS CONFIRMED BY
NCB BANK (NEDERLANDS CREDIT BANK)
FINAL MEASURES TO ENSURE REDUCTION OF LONG-STANDING LIABILITIES TO THE BANK HAVE NOW BEEN TAKEN. THIS LARGE QUANTITY OF VALUABLE INVENTORY WILL BE SPLIT INTO SEVERAL AUCTIONS AND SOLD PIECE BY PIECE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF SALE.
INVENTORY CONSISTS OF: 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY PERSIAN RUGS AND CARPETS FROM THE MORE IMPORTANT WEAVING AREAS OF THE EAST, FINE CONTEMPORARY AND NOMADIC RUGS INCLUDING FABULOUS SILK RUGS AND CARPETS WITH ENTRIES FROM OTHER SOURCES.
AUCTION ON SUNDAY 15th AT 3.30 PM
VIEWING FROM 2.00 PM AT THE SALEROOMS OF
A. WELLESLEY BRISCOE & PARTNERS. LTD.,
ROXBY PLACE, OFF SEAGRAVE RD., LONDON SW6.
TEL: 01-381 8558. FAX: 01-381 4262
Directions: Travelling West along Old Brompton Road take first turning left after West Brompton tube station into Seagrave Road – take first left again into Roxby Place.
Terms of Payment: cheque, cash and all major credit cards. Export and shipping facilities available.

Broadcasting Authority ruling

ITV must carry rival adverts

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Independent television companies will have to screen advertisements placed by new satellite television services although they are commercial rivals, the Independent Broadasting Authority ruled yesterday.

In spite of complaints from some stations, the authority upheld a decision taken last September that it would regard any refusal to accept comercials as unreasonable discrimination.

However, the policy adopted by the IBA does not mean that stations will be obliged to carry advertising material regardless of content.

"For example, the IBA does not think it would be reasonable for ITV companies to be obliged to carry advertising denigrating ITV companies or seeking to persuade viewers to watch specific programmes at specific times on the new services", the authority said.

"The IBA will develop guidelines in this area as necessary in consultation with the ITV companies and taking account of any representations by the new broadcasters."

The authority promised to review its policy regularly, with the first reassessment due in 12 months' time.

- Independent Television News is transferring its Westminster bureau to new studios at the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre opposite Parliament Square.
- British Satellite Broadcasting, due to launch three television channels in September, has had its funding increased to £353.5 million by shareholders to help pay for programming, it was announced yesterday. The £131 million boost to an original outlay of £222.5 million is expected to be followed by a flotation aimed at raising another £300 million later this year.

The Stock Exchange has agreed in principle for BSB to seek a listing for its shares if the company chooses to do so – so avoiding the normal five-year trading rule.

There has been increasing speculation that BSB will eventually need up to £1 billion, but Mr Anthony Simmds-Gooding, chief executive of the company, insisted yesterday that overall costs had not risen.

"We have chosen to invest more now to give BSB a firm grip on the best film and programming packages", he said.

Le Gavroche 'nearly faced closure order'

By Robin Young

London's most highly rated restaurant presented such serious health hazards that it came close to being recommended for immediate closure, a Westminster City Council health officer said yesterday.

Mr Alexander Parker-Brown, the officer whose report led to the prosecution of Le Gavroche and M Albert Roux, its owner, on 15 counts under food hygiene regulations and five under health and safety at work legislation, said that he had been lenient when assessing the risk of food contamination at the three-star restaurant.

Mr Parker-Brown said that in his report he had assessed Le Gavroche as having 70 penalty points out of a maximum 100. That placed Le Gavroche towards the bottom of a category rated "poor". He told Mr Timothy Cassel, QC, for M Roux, that he would have felt justified in awarding the restaurant 89 penalty points, which would have put it in a class described as "bad", requiring definite legal proceedings and possible closure.

In reply to Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, for Westminster City Council, Mr Robert Crozier, chief environmental health officer for the council, said that he had been "frankly shocked" by the "totally unsuitable" arrangements for food storage at Le Gavroche.

Mr Crozier said he regarded conditions at the restaurant as "appalling" and "an absolute disgrace" with the risks of food contamination "obvious".

The hearing was adjourned until Monday.

هكذا من الأصل

Child smokers 'are more likely to be absent from school'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Children who smoke, or whose parents do, are more likely to be absent from school than non-smokers or those from non-smoking families, according to a survey to be published tomorrow.

The study in the *British Medical Journal* shows that children aged 12 to 13 who smoke regularly are three times more likely to be absent from school than non-smokers.

Any child, smoker or not, was 1.5 times more likely to be away if his or her parents smoked and the risk increased if the smoker was the mother.

The researcher, Dr Anne Charlton, director of the Cancer Research Campaign education and child studies group, suggested yesterday that smoking parents could be initiating a vicious circle where absenteeism from school because of minor illnesses led to under-achievement and then to smoking.

"They could be setting their children off to a disadvantage right from the start." Associations were already known between parental smoking and health problems in children, Dr Charlton said at a press conference held by the British Medical Association.

A mother's smoking during pregnancy, while breast feeding and during a child's early infancy could cause considerable health risks to the child long before that child has started smoking, she said. "Children with smoking parents start school with additional health risks."

The children might be absent frequently because of minor ailments which could hold back their progress. "The child falls behind, develops a negative attitude towards school and starts smoking. When they become parents the whole cycle starts again."

The research was carried out on a sample of 2,885 children in 29 state schools in northern England.

The main reason for absence in the study was such minor ailments as colds, influenza, tonsilitis and stomach disorders. Other reasons included dental and medical appointments, truancy, suspension, helping at home, oversleeping and bad weather.

Dr Charlton said a child's sex and social background had little effect on the results although there was a higher overall rate of absence in boys from industrial areas. She said she was unable to find out the father's occupation from the children in the sample.

"We know that social class is an important factor in smoking in parents but it is not in children."

Single parents were also likely to be smokers and single mothers might be more prone to keeping older children at home to help to look after younger siblings. "Whatever the social class there does appear to be an increased health risk due to smoking or passive smoking."

The children in the study completed a questionnaire in January 1987 and another in May 1987.

They were asked whether they smoked at any time, occasionally or regularly – at least once a week – and whether their parents smoked. The information was compared with the children who answered the second questionnaire. "Regular smoking was significantly more common among those absent for the second survey", the study says.

The results showed that 3 per cent of children were regular smokers and a further 34 per cent had smoked at some time or occasionally.

The parents of 57 per cent of the children smoked. Children of smoking parents were twice as likely to smoke.

The survey said 20 per cent of children were absent on the second date. Of those questioned, 19 per cent had never smoked, 23 per cent smoked occasionally and 44 per cent regularly. If neither parent, or only the father, smoked the figures were 17 per cent, 20 per cent and 37 per cent respectively.

If both parents or only the mother smoked the figures were 21 per cent, 27 per cent and 46 per cent.

Ballet company steps off to new home

MARK PEPPER



Dancers Andrea Tredderick (left) and Simone Clarke get ready in a cramped dressing room at the Sadler's Wells Theatre in Islington, north London.

By Simon Tait

The Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet is going to move to Birmingham next year, Mr Jeremy Isaacs, director general of the Royal Opera House, announced yesterday – ending months of speculation.

The 55-strong company's future has been secured by an extra £2 million from the Arts Council to relocate to the recently enlarged 1,900-seat Birmingham Hippodrome.

In what Mr Isaacs described as "an extraordinarily enlightened attitude", Birmingham has provided £4 million to adapt the theatre for the ballet.

However, Mr Peter Wright, the ballet's director, admitted that he was prepared for "a little lowering of our standards" in the first few months after the move in August 1990. "We are aware that there are some people who may not wish to go but we do not know how many dancers as yet."

Michael O'Hare, a dancer, said that there had been initial disapproval of the suggested relocation when rumours first began more than a year ago, but that as proposals became clearer and the size of the development became known dancers became less opposed.

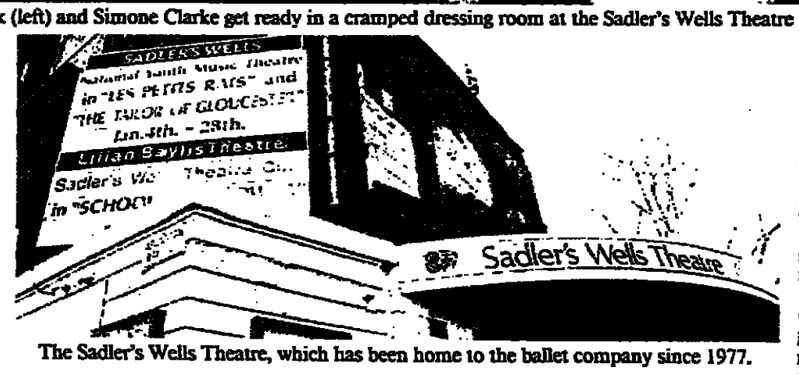
A big revolt is unlikely. The reality is that with Covent Garden Opera House closing for redevelopment in the early 1990s there will be more than enough dancers on the London market to meet requirements.

Mr Luke Rittner, the Arts Council's secretary general, said the move was in line with the council's policy to disperse the arts to the regions; he announced an extra £1 million a year funding.

The shift has become necessary in recent years, with the large ballet company restricted to the relatively small stage at the Sadler's Wells Theatre in Islington, north London, and with rehearsal space becoming more and more scarce.

The arrival of Sadler's Wells, means that Birmingham, which has spent £5 million on the Hippodrome since its acquisition in 1979, moves into the forefront of regional arts. The Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, under its conductor Simon Rattle, is establishing an international reputation.

Spectrum, page 11



The Sadler's Wells Theatre, which has been home to the ballet company since 1977.

Women and money

Wizards at housekeeping

British women believe they deal well with day-to-day budgeting; more than one in six call themselves "financial wizards" and claim that their efficient running of household budgets often prevents more serious financial difficulties.

Yet they still depend on male partners for financial advice, and for decisions on pensions, investments and insurances.

Those are among the results of a national survey of more than 6,000 women carried out by National and Provincial Building Society as part of its Financial Services for Women programme.

This recognizes that women represent the biggest opportunity for growth in the financial services market; for example only 21 per cent belong to a pension scheme compared with 53 per cent of men. The research shows that women do not yet plan for their financial future. They tend to seek financial advice when the need arises – buying a house or a car – or when a crisis looms, such as divorce or a partner's death.

But women are not financially irresponsible; the survey shows that most have their finances under control. More than half (55 per cent) say they know to the nearest £50 how much is in their bank account; only 6 per cent have a "frightening" amount on credit cards.

Many felt their partners had a very different attitude to money; "he gets his priorities upside down" one women said. Yet women often surrender control over spending to these partners; only 34 per cent of married women have their own bank cheque book account, and less than half – 45 per cent – control household spending. One in three leaves pension and insurance decisions entirely to their husbands and one in six claims to have no say about investments.

The survey shows women want to know more about money matters, especially taxes, pensions, shares and savings; half of those surveyed believed that they "could get good at it, given the chance".

So, National and Provincial is launching a freephone financial information service from February 27 to answer basic questions and refer women for further advice. It will also run a series of free financial seminars around the country.

Cot death girl was killed, court told

A baby thought to have been a cot death victim was actually murdered 13 days before her first birthday, a court was told yesterday.

When the body of Cheryl Robson was exhumed two years later, four doctors decided that she died of shock, brought on by internal injuries after a violent attack.

Mr Peter Morrell, counsel for the prosecution at Lincoln Crown Court, accused Andrew Maidens, aged 26, a boy friend of Cheryl's mother, of murdering the baby in April 1986.

Police did not receive the original pathologist's report – determining a cot death, but noting injuries thought to have been caused by attempts to revive the baby – until early in 1988, he told the court. A murder inquiry was then launched.

The body was exhumed from Alford cemetery, Lincolnshire, in January last year and re-examined. Mr Maidens was interviewed by detectives and admitted he had smacked Cheryl and squeezed her, but denied he had done anything to her on the day of her death.

Mr Maidens, an unemployed painter and decorator, formerly of Louth, Lincolnshire, and now living in Nottingham, denies murder and child cruelty. Mr Morrell



Cheryl Robson: signs of internal injuries.

said that just hours before the baby was found dead in her bedroom, she had been seen by a health visitor, who did not detect anything wrong with her.

Then she was washed and put to bed by Mrs Angela Robson, aged 26, her mother.

Later that evening Mr Maidens went into the baby's room before leaving the house to play pool, Mr Morrell said. He returned home and retired with Mrs Robson, but later went into the girl's room, where he found her dead.

Mr Morrell said the accused asked a neighbour for help, but did not appear particularly upset. Mr Morrell said Mr Maidens must have been responsible for the girl's death.

The trial continues today.

Children 'abused by family'

By David Sapsted

Eight children, the youngest eight months old and the eldest aged eight, were used as sexual playthings by their grandfather as part of a family ring of child abuse, Nottingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

The grandfather, aged 60, from Broxtowe, Nottingham, denied 11 charges of indecent assault, one of incest and another indecency charge.

The children are to give evidence from outside the court via a video film link.

Mr Peter Joyce, for the prosecution, said members of the family, including the parents, had admitted indecent assault, incest and cruelty.

He said the grandfather and other members of the family would hold parties after evenings out.

"The children asleep would be woken up and used as sexual playthings", he said.

Mr Joyce said the children would be forced to sit on the floor and perform acts on the male members who were dancing round the room. He said the incest charge involved the defendant's granddaughter aged eight.

The man's son, aged 31, said: "I abused the children. So did my father. There were lots of adults there. It was just a big party."

The case continues today.

Peer 'amazed' at jail threat

By Patrick O'Hanlon

Lord Mancroft, son of a former government minister, said yesterday he was "amazed and upset" about legal proceedings against him concerning alleged unpaid debts.

Lord Mancroft, who became the third baron on the death of his father in 1987, faces seven days' imprisonment for contempt after a county court judge ruled this week he was not protected against arrest under parliamentary privilege or as a peer of the realm.

Judge White, at Wandsworth County Court, south-west London, upheld a committal order made against the peer for failing to attend court for examination of his means in proceedings to enforce judgements on debts.

However, the judge ordered that execution of the warrant for the arrest of Lord Mancroft should be stayed for 21 days to allow him to appeal. The original order for contempt was made by Judge Peck at Wandsworth County Court last September.

Lord Mancroft has failed to meet four court orders to pay debts amounting to more than £4,000 to Moss Bros, Barclaycard, the Rowe veterinary group and Peden International Transport.

Lord Mancroft, aged 31, of Prince of Wales Drive, Battersea, south London, said yesterday: "Unfortunately I do not know what is happening because I have not received any documents on this. I have sought, and am seeking, legal advice. But I never have and never will seek parliamentary privilege."

Judge White had ruled that although peers were privileged from arrest in support of civil process, that did not include situations where the courts were exercising their punitive disciplinary powers.

MAPLES SALE ON NOW!
FINE SAVINGS ON FURNITURE CARPETS AND BEDS.
WITH INTEREST FREE CREDIT



3 PIECE SUITE
*R.O.P. £2,499
SALE
£1,999
Special price for 3-piece suite option

THE TUSCAN COLLECTION
A beautiful suite in wonderfully soft leather in a variety of colours The combination of its clean modern lines and the soft inviting cushions produce a feeling of studied opulence.
Individual prices:
3 Seater Sofa. *R.O.P. £1,085 ..... SALE £899
2 Seater Sofa. *R.O.P. £919 ..... SALE £759
Chair. *R.O.P. £707 ..... SALE £579
Stool. *R.O.P. £395 ..... SALE £329

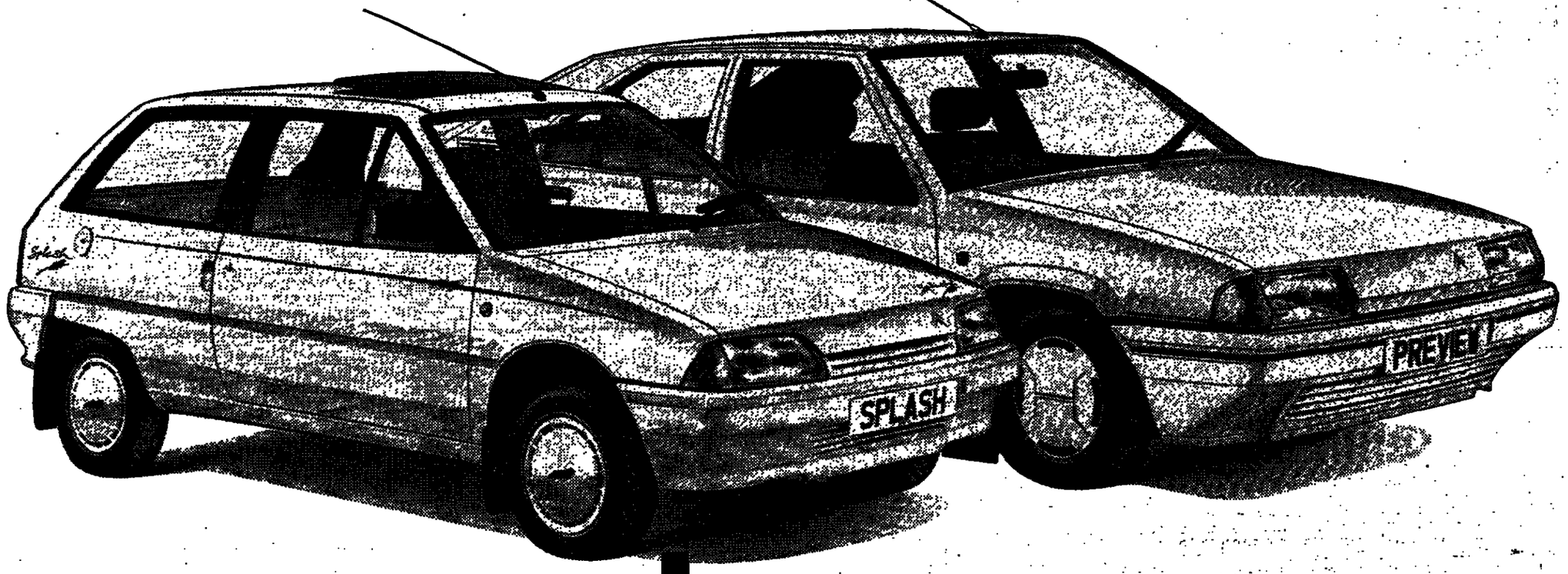
PULPITO COLLECTION The unadulterated luxury of marble at a very affordable price. The Pulpito collection is designed in elegant black marquinya marble for the unusual combination of classic and modern.

SAFETY FIRST
CMHR Foam. For your safety these products contain safety foam to 1989 Safety Standards.

*R.O.P. = Re-order price is the price we intend to charge after current volume buying contracts are exhausted.
†Subject to status. Ask for written details.
Licensed credit brokers.
All stock subject to availability.

MAPLES OF LONDON
145 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON W1. Tel: 01-387 7000

CITROËN
When you choose a special car...



...choose a special deal.

Special Flexible Finance available on all Citroën AX and BX 14 models.

FLEXIBLE DEPOSITS

Your choice. Either a minimum 20% or a minimum 40% deposit tailored to your individual needs.

LOW INTEREST RATES

Your choice. Interest rates from 0%A.P.R. to 13.8%A.P.R. depending on deposit/repayment period selected.

LOW REPAYMENTS

Your choice. Select the loan period to suit your deposit and monthly repayment requirement.

CASH PRICE incl. est. on the road costs	AX SPLASH Special Edition £5,730	BX PREVIEW Special Edition £7,648.10	CASH PRICE incl. est. on the road costs	AX SPLASH Special Edition £5,730	BX PREVIEW Special Edition £7,648.10
A.P.R. 0%			**A.P.R. 6.0%**		
Deposit (40%)	£2,292.00	£3,059.30	Deposit (20%)	£1,146.00	£1,529.62
Amount financed	£3,438.00	£4,588.80	Amount financed	£4,584.00	£6,118.48
12 monthly repayments	£286.50	£382.40	12 monthly repayments	£393.27*	£524.91*
Total amount payable	£5,730.00	£7,648.10	Total amount payable	£5,875.24	£7,838.54
A.P.R. 7.9%			**A.P.R. 9.9%**		
Deposit (40%)	£2,292.00	£3,059.30	Deposit (20%)	£1,146.00	£1,529.62
Amount financed	£3,438.00	£4,588.80	Amount financed	£4,584.00	£6,118.48
24 monthly repayments	£154.57*	£206.30*	24 monthly repayments	£209.90*	£280.17*
Total amount payable	£6,011.68	£8,020.50	Total amount payable	£6,193.60	£8,263.70
A.P.R. 11.9%			**A.P.R. 13.8%**		
Deposit (40%)	£2,292.00	£3,059.30	Deposit (20%)	£1,146.00	£1,529.62
Amount financed	£3,438.00	£4,588.80	Amount financed	£4,584.00	£6,118.48
36 monthly repayments	£112.55*	£150.22*	36 monthly repayments	£153.88*	£205.39*
Total amount payable	£6,353.80	£8,477.22	Total amount payable	£6,695.68	£8,933.66

*Not including a single acceptance fee (maximum £10). Payable with first instalment. Typical Examples low cost finance

Now is the time to get down to your Citroën dealer and take advantage of a special New Year double bonus.

Firstly, there's the two stunning special editions, the superbly equipped, all white colour co-ordinated AX Splash and the all white or red BX Preview.

Then, to make it easier to buy one of these sensational cars, we're offering until, the end of January a really flexible low cost finance scheme.

So hurry to your local Citroën dealer, you'll find him by phoning free on 0800-282671 and take advantage of this exceptional New Year double bonus.

CITROËN

SPECIFICATION AND PERFORMANCE FIGURES SOURCE: MANUFACTURER. ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS AND INCLUDE CAR TAX, VAT, FRONT/REAR SEAT BELTS AND ESTIMATED ON THE ROAD COSTS. CARS FEATURED AX SPLASH £5,730. BX PREVIEW £7,648. FINANCE OFFERS THROUGH CITROËN CREDIT SUBJECT TO CREDIT ACCEPTANCE, VEHICLE AVAILABILITY AND RELATE TO TRANSACTIONS COMPLETED BY 31ST JANUARY 1989. APR 0% TO 13.8% DEPENDING ON SCHEME SELECTED. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST. DEPT. T64, CITROËN UK LTD., FREEPOST, LONDON N4 1BR.

نقلا من الأصل

Doctors step up call for no-fault accident compensation plan

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A new scheme by which victims of medical accidents could be compensated without having to prove fault in the courts was called for by the British Medical Association yesterday.

But Mr David Bolt, chairman of the BMA council's working party on no-fault compensation, said there would be no progress towards such a scheme unless the Government was prepared to help to establish what it would cost.

He told a conference in London held by the BMA and Royal Society of Medicine that the medical profession "hates the present arrangements" for pursuing medical negligence claims in the courts.

"We feel very sad about the tiny minority of patients who have a real prospect of obtaining compensation through the courts", he said.

"They have a long and very bitter struggle before them and have to proceed on the basis that the individual who looked after them was careless in providing their care."

That introduced hostility into the doctor-patient relationship, he said. The whole business of litigation was very destructive and extremely uncertain.

Mr Bolt said the time had come when compensation for medical mishaps should be related to the patient's need and not to the possibility of proving negligence against the doctor or other professional concerned.

He said however that a no-fault scheme would not compensate all medical mishaps. In particular, it would not cover people who suffered side effects from drugs such as Opren, the anti arthritis drug. Drug companies would have to finance their own scheme for such cases.

He also urged the Government to help to establish the costs of a no-fault scheme. "It is unfortunate that ministers seem to have taken so firm a position against no-fault compensation.

"Serious exploration of the possible cost would be, to say the least, greatly facilitated if the Department of Health were willing to offer help with a retrospective study which seems the only way to make progress at the moment."

Outlining BMA proposals for a no-fault scheme, Mr Bolt said a detailed assessment of costs had to be the first step. A substantial contribution to the scheme's bill would have to be made by the medical profession.

Doctors already put £90 million a year into indemnity insurance, of which less than half reached damaged patients.

If litigation could be reduced, there was substantial room for improving the way the profession's money was applied in favour of giving help to those in real need.

Mr Bolt said a number of medical accidents would be excluded. For example, only physical and not psychological injury could be compensated. To include psychological problems would almost certainly "cripple the scheme".

Other exclusions would be problems which arose from the progression of the underlying disease, and diagnostic error which was judged reasonable by experts.

The scheme would not cover recognized risks of procedures, competently performed for valid reasons, or damage arising from infection where associated with procedures such as drainage.

● A boy aged six who suffered brain damage at birth has been awarded £330,000 compensation.

Lawyers alleged nursing and midwifery staff were slow to detect complications during his mother's labour. The boy, from Salford, near Manchester has not been named.

Legal action started almost immediately after the delivery went wrong. Yesterday health chiefs were angry that it had taken so long to reach a settlement.

The final bill, with costs, for the North West Regional Health Authority and Salford City Health Authority could be £750,000.

An eye for an antique 'cuppa'

MARK PEPPER



Visitors to the opening day of the West London antiques fair had to look elsewhere for refreshment, but for an enchanting example of miniature silverware this tea and coffee set dating from 1730, shown by Mr Edward Donohoe, was hard to beat. The fair at Kensington Town Hall, which has drawn nearly 90 exhibitors from as far afield as the Isle of Man, South Wales and Newcastle upon Tyne, is open from 11am until 8pm today and until 6pm tomorrow and on Sunday.

Safety door traps 2 in arson attack flat

By David Sapsted

Council tenants fitting security doors as protection against vandals and burglars could be locking themselves into death traps, London Fire Brigade said after a couple died yesterday in an arson attack on their home.

An arsonist sprayed petrol through the letter-box of a seventeenth-floor flat in south London. Firemen reached the couple after spending five minutes hacking their way into the frame that held sliding bolts from the solid steel front door.

Last month, after a similar incident in which a man died behind a security door which firemen could not remove in time, the London Fire Brigade announced it was having to formulate "a programme of rigorous training" to tackle the problems associated with the anti-vandal devices.

The couple who died yesterday, Victor and Audrey Johnson, were employed by Lambeth council.

Kelly Long , aged 14, a neighbour in the tower block in Grantham Road, Stockwell, said she had heard the couple trying to escape.

"It was like a very loud thumping as though someone was desperate to get out. I heard it four or five times — then suddenly it stopped."

Mr Johnson, aged 57, was found in the hallway of the flat. Mrs Johnson, aged 54, was in the bathroom.

Lambeth council said it was illegal to fit a wrought iron door without permission, although it recognized tenants' increasing fears about violence and burglaries.

It was also disclosed that the council has agreed in principle to fit an entry phone in the block after a two-year campaign by residents.

Church discipline questioned

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The case for more effective disciplinary measures in the Church of England to deal with clergymen failing to measure up to the job while enjoying a "meal ticket for life" is likely to be supported by many bishops and senior clergy, it became clear yesterday.

The machinery for handling such cases was criticized in a report from the church's Ministry Co-ordinating Group, published yesterday. It stated: "We fully accept that ordination is a personal commitment for life, but we would resist the implication that, just because a person is ordained, there is the expectation that the church will continue to employ him or her".

The group supported the idea of a board of ministry that would be able to look at such matters more closely. A spokesman said yesterday that their observations were meant to start a discussion, and they had no specific proposals in mind.

Mr Brian Hanson, legal adviser to the General Synod, said there was already a legal method for removing a clergyman who treated his job as a "meal ticket". If a clergyman committed an offence against ecclesiastical law, he could be dealt with under the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure, which was almost never used as the threat of it was usually enough to persuade a clergyman to resign.

Less serious cases, including that of a clergyman who was neglecting his parish, could be dealt with under the Incumbents' Vacation of Benefices Measure.

The procedure was for a parochial church council to pass a resolution stating that a "pastoral breakdown" had happened in the parish.

After investigation by the local archdeacon, the diocean bishop could then order a public inquiry or refer the case to a provincial tribunal.

Both bodies sat in public and, because there was a great reluctance to "wash dirty linen", the threat of such proceedings was almost always sufficient to obtain the clergyman's resignation, Mr Hanson said. As a result, such formal inquiries in public happened only about once or twice a decade.

The General Synod has asked for a review of the workings of the Vacation of Benefices Measure.

It is not liked by many bishops, because they regard a formal public inquiry as too rough and heavy, according to Mr Martin Ellengorn, secretary of the Ministry Co-ordinating Group.

"There are certainly some bishops who are quite concerned about this", he said. The phrase "meal ticket for life" had been mentioned, but the Vacation of Benefices Measure "could cause quite substantial pastoral damage, which could last for years afterwards".

As a result, bishops were very reluctant to use it, and wanted a more workable method.

Such cases usually needed to be treated pastorally with great sensitivity, in confidence, he added.

The matter had been mentioned by the Ministry Co-ordinating Group as part of its case for setting up a board of ministry which would have greater resources to advise the House of Bishops on possible changes to the disciplinary procedure.

School trips

Parents cannot be forced to contribute

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Parents may come under pressure to contribute towards the cost of school visits after legislation banning schools from making a compulsory charge.

They may also be asked to contribute towards the cost of children whose families are not prepared to make a contribution, according to guidelines issued yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Schools and local authorities had complained that earlier guidelines were open to misinterpretation. They told Mr Baker that a system of voluntary contributions could lead to the end of school trips.

New rules on charging in the Education Reform Act were made after successful legal challenges to local authorities that were charging for school trips, many of them considered to be essential elements of mainstream education in preparation for public examinations. Mr Baker's revised guidelines make it plain that from April 1 this year, no charge — other than for board and lodging — can be made for such visits, even if they are outside school hours.

Other visits will also have to be offered free of charge where they fall "wholly or mainly" in normal school time. Parents can be charged for residential costs, but where the trip is made in school hours they cannot be charged for transport or any costs such as extra wages incurred. No charges can be higher than the actual cost.

The guidelines define "wholly or mainly" as more than 50 per cent of the normal school day, not including the lunch break. Long-term visits such as field trips or foreign exchanges will be judged on a formula dividing each normal school day into half-days ending at noon or midnight.

Where six or more hours in a half-day is spent on a residential trip, the whole of that half-day is counted; where half or more of a school session is devoted to a residential trip, the entire session counts.

As a result, careful planning of the timing of trips could allow schools to charge full costs. A Monday to Friday trip could not be charged, but a visit beginning at noon on Friday and ending at noon on Monday could. School visits taking place at half-term or other holidays could also be charged.

Mr Baker said: "I know some local authorities and schools worry that worthwhile visits and activities which take place in school time may collapse for lack of funding, if parents cannot be required to pay for them.

"I think they are being unduly pessimistic. Parents who were previously willing to pay charges are, surely, unlikely to refuse voluntary contributions if they value the activity and want it to go ahead."

In notifying parents of proposed trips, the school must make it plain which charges are voluntary, and cannot exclude a child if parents refuse to contribute. But the guidelines add: "It could be made equally clear that the activity would not take place if parents were reluctant to support it".

The guidelines also allow schools to ask parents to help less well-off children. "A contribution towards the cost could include the cost of subsidizing pupils from low-income families, or the cost of travel for accompanying teachers."

Departmental officials indicated yesterday that the most likely source of extra money would be from general fund-raising events, with school funds continuing to be used in cases of genuine hardship. Sponsors could also be encouraged to finance occasional events.

Local authorities and schools are being asked to prepare firm policies to avoid any doubts among parents.

More people aged between 16 and 18 are staying on in full-time education, government statistics show. Last year about 32 per cent continued their education compared with 25 per cent in 1975. The number of young people in employment fell from 72 per cent to 43 per cent. Of those continuing their education 35 per cent were women, against 30 per cent men. In 1975 only 37 per cent of people aged 16 were in full-time education, rising to 45 per cent in 1987 with last year's provisional figures standing at 47 per cent.

The unemployment rate for those aged 16 rose from 2 per cent in 1975 to 12 per cent in 1982 and 1983, falling to 7 per cent (1988). A quarter of those aged 16 were involved in the Youth Training Scheme from 1984 to 1988. In 1975 25 per cent of those aged 17 were in full-time education, rising to 32 per cent (1986) and 33 per cent (1988). Unemployment in that group was 3 per cent (1975), 17 per cent (1984), and 13 per cent (1987). Provisional 1988 figures suggest a fall to 9 per cent.

Of those aged 18 only 12 per cent were in full-time education in 1975, 17 per cent in 1984 and 18 per cent last year. Three per cent were unemployed in 1975, 20 per cent in 1984 and 16 per cent in 1986. Figures for 1988 suggest a fall to 12 per cent.

Scrambler to protect computers

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Electronic "eavesdroppers" who can call up computer passwords and entire screens of sensitive data are putting thousands of programs at risk, a computer specialist said yesterday.

Mr Tomo Razmilovic, managing director of Cominvest, a leading Swedish computer company, said there had already been several criminal cases in which computer eavesdropping was suspected, although proof was hard to obtain as the technique left no trace.

Although government establishments already had protection, many companies dealing with personal records or commercially sensitive information did not.

He said that unprotected information could be monitored using nothing more complicated than a modified television.

Visual display units of computers emitted electromagnetic signals that could be picked up by detector equipment a few hundred yards away. Those emissions could be used to decipher what was on the computer screen, and the results stored on video tape for later scrutiny, he said.

Mr Razmilovic's company has developed a scrambling device that he claims is capable of preventing effective eavesdropping.

The device produces extra emissions, burying those generated by the VDU. The confusing signals are transmitted from a nine-inch diameter assembly of aerials on top of the VDU. Circuitry and a smaller aerial that can be built inside a computer terminal have also been developed.

"Three years from now, I am convinced that 90 per cent of all terminals will have protection", Mr Razmilovic said.



The Duchess of York signing the proof copy of *The Times Museums Year Guidebook* yesterday.

Duchess approves new guide

The Duchess of York cast an expert eye over the cover of *The Times Museums Year Guide '89* yesterday, and said: "It's a fascinating project".

The Duchess, who worked in publishing before her marriage, said: "Did I say the right thing?" as she joked with the designer, Mr Miles Aldridge, aged 24.

The Duchess, patron of Museums Year 1989, pressed the button which set the presses running at Swains & Co in London on 35,000 covers, the first stage of production of *The Times* sponsored guide.

The *Museums Year Guide* will give details of hundreds of concessions in museums all over Britain, in the course of the next 12 months, and details of the scheme, will be announced on publication on February 6.

Sources of income

Farmers turn on minister

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers yesterday turned on Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, deploring his suggestion that falling farm incomes could or should be met by income from other sources.

It is certain that he will be given a rough ride at next month's annual meeting of the National Farmers' Union, which two years ago passed an unprecedented vote of no confidence in Mr Michael Jopling, his predecessor.

Mr Simon Gourlay, the union president, told a meeting of the union's national council in London that it was "grossly misleading" to suggest, as the minister had done at the Oxford Farming Conference, that farming now accounted for only 56 per cent of farm income.

Council members observed that the Government was setting an unfortunate precedent by suggesting that the incomes of people in other professions should be assessed in the light of what their wives or other family members might earn.

Would MPs appreciate it if their parliamentary salaries were examined in relation to their earnings from outside activities?

The minister's analysis did not distingnish between full-time and part-time holdings, Mr Gourlay said.

It was not surprising that part-time farmers earned most of their income outside farming but, although they accounted for 44 per cent of holdings, they represented only 3 per cent of production.

The Inland Revenue survey cited by Mr MacGregor showed that non-agricultural earnings on smaller full-time farms amounted to less than £500 a year on average. Speakers at the meeting declared that the industry was under siege from an anti-farming establishment.

Mr Tony Paxton, chairman of the the union's cereals committee, said that Mr MacGregor knew what he was doing "and he is prepared to accept blood on the carpet".

Mr Aled Griffiths, chairman of the poultry committee, said in the four weeks after Mrs Edwina Currie, the former Under Secretary of State for Health, had said that most egg production was contaminated by salmonella, the industry had lost at least £18 million.

Referring to the latest food scare, the NFU said that listeria in chickens was primarily a problem of storage in supermarkets. It was normally killed by cooking.

Race of death

Two drivers who killed a man aged 71 while racing at 60mph along Bridlington streets were at York Crown Court yesterday banned for six years and ordered to do 240 hours community service. Michael Armitage, of Bridlington, and Brian Mitchell, of Leeds, admitted causing death by reckless driving.

Pledge on cars

Owners who feared that forthcoming EEC rules banning older cars from the roads would stop them entering the London to Brighton vintage car run have been told such use can continue.

Water appeal

Friends of the Earth is arranging to table an amendment to the water Bill to give the Secretary of State for the Environment a specific responsibility to improve the quality of river water.

Reservoir peril

Witcombe reservoir, supplying thousands of homes between Stroud and Gloucester, may be abandoned because of high levels of aluminium in the water that can lead to Alzheimer's disease.

Pavarotti date

Luciano Pavarotti, the Italian tenor, makes his only British appearance this year on June 18 at the London Arena, which opens next month, in the city's docklands. Tickets are £25-£50.

Payout by Eye

Pannone Napier, the solicitors, won undisclosed High Court libel damages against *Private Eye* yesterday over allegations of poor compensation for families of Herald of Free Enterprise victims.

Strike to end

Engineers, who have been on strike since Monday at Sellafield nuclear reprocessing works, Cumbria, voted yesterday to return to work.

Weekend food prices

Fish plentiful but fairly expensive

Fresh fish supplies are almost back to normal after the holidays but prices are fairly high. Good quality cod fillets are cheaper than last week at about £2.50 a lb but haddock is expensive at nearly £3.

Good quality herring and mackerel are about 75p a lb and there are excellent sprats at 70p.

Coley, which is an underrated fish, looks rather dull on the fish counter but when cooked with a little imagination is delicious and the flesh turns white. It costs an economic £1.30 a lb.

There are superb lemon soles weighing 1 lb to 1.5 lb but they are not cheap. Expect to pay more than £3 a lb. Dover soles are between £5 and £6 a lb, and halibut and turbot are in the same price range. Look out for a newcomer from east Africa, the yellow banded trevalley which weighs about 12 oz, or the slightly smaller sea bream and bourgeois, all about £3.20 a lb.

A good butcher will offer stuffed lamb noisettes at about £4.95 a lb, boned gigot at about £3.18, or a melon-shaped stuffed shoulder about £3.09 a lb, or perhaps butterfly tops at £3.55 a lb.

They are ready to put into the oven and are ideal for family meals or a dinner party.

At Waitrose, a six-cutlet rack of lamb coated with herbs and breadcrumbs at £3.35 a lb costs about £4.29. A standard whole leg of lamb is a good buy this weekend at an average price of £1.86 a lb.

At Sainsbury's this cut is down from £2.08 to £1.75. If that is too big for your needs — it is delicious eaten cold — you could choose a knuckle half at £1.85 a lb or a fillet half at £1.79 a lb.

The price of prime roasting joints of beef are mostly stable: steaks are slightly more expensive but braising and stewing steak are cheaper, making it a good time for freezing stews and casseroles.

Tesco has fresh braising steak at £1.76 a lb and fresh pork spare rib chops at 89p a lb; Presto and Safeway have British beef sirloin steak at £3.79 a lb, boneless brisket £1.82, and boneless leg pork steaks £1.68.

Asda has fresh basted whole chicken at 69p a lb, home-produced shin of beef at £1.39, and home-produced braising steak £1.69. Bejam offers a pack of eight of tenderized rump steak, £4.89 a pack, and frozen chickens at 39p a lb.

Oranges are the pick of the week fruit and cost between 8p and 25p each, and marmalade oranges, at 25p-32p a lb, are new in the shops. The other newcomers are minneolas at 15p-25p each.

Grapefruit at 16p-35each and satsumas at 25p-50p lb are all in good supply. The first of the early forced rhubarb is between 30p-60p a lb.

There are first class supplies of all winter vegetables and adequate salad ingredients. Spanish and Canary Island tomatoes are an excellent buy at 40p-65p a lb.

MILLET LIGHTING
S • A • L • E
UP TO 50% OFF

Millet is offering generous discounts on the worlds finest collection of unique traditional and modern classic lighting. Also available is our exclusive range of occasional furniture now at half price. Prices start below £100 for our light fittings and under £50 for beautifully decorated table lamps complete with shade. Millet is also open Sundays 10am to 5pm throughout the sale.

NOW ON
OPEN SUNDAYS 10am TO 5pm.
LATE NIGHT THURSDAYS UNTIL 7pm.

Sheer *brilliance* by

millet



Available exclusively at 197-201 Baker Street, London NW1. Tel: 01-935 7851 (opp. Baker St. Tube).
Free parking outside the showroom on Saturdays pm and Sundays.
OPEN SUNDAYS 10am TO 5pm. LATE NIGHT THURSDAYS UNTIL 7pm.

Belgian's arrest may reveal the firms aiding Libya at Rabta

By Michael Dynes in Brussels, Ian Murray in Bonn and Nicholas Beeston in London

A Belgian businessman was expected to be charged with breaking Belgian export regulations last night after police discovered documents linking him to a West German company allegedly involved in supplying Libya with material for its suspected chemical weapons factory at Rabta.

The arrest could help unravel the network of foreign companies, mainly West German, which are suspected of having supplied Libya with the technology and expertise to help it build the plant.

Mr Jozef Gedopt, aged 40, the director of the Antwerp-based Cross Link shipping company, was arrested on Wednesday night after arriving in Brussels on a flight from Geneva with documents said to implicate the company in illegal deliveries of raw materials and construction equipment to Tripoli.

He is facing charges of using false export certificates, withholding information and falsifying the nature and destination of materials shipped to Libya, on behalf of a West German chemical company, Imhausen Chemie GmbH. Also implicated in the affair is the Frankfurt-based company, IBI Engineering.

IBI is owned by Dr Ihsan Barbouti, a London-based Iraqi expatriate accused by US officials of involvement in the shipment of equipment to Libya. British authorities are monitoring events but have not yet opened their own investigation.

The US cancelled a planned missile exercise in the Mediterranean and will rotate its two aircraft carrier battle groups well away from Libya to avoid antagonizing Colonel Muammar Gadaffi (Our Foreign Staff writes). The move came as the Arab League in Tunis condemned the US downing of two Libyan jets as a threat to the security of Arab nations and the Mediterranean.

In a letter to *The Times* through his solicitors, Peter Carter-Ruck and Partners, Dr Barbouti admitted that he was a consultant engineer in Libya in 1985 and the contractor to many factories on the same industrial site as the plant in Rabta.

Although Britain and US believe the plant is now a chemical weapons facility, Dr Barbouti is firm in his belief that it is nothing more than a pharmaceutical factory. He ceased involvement with the industrial site in mid-1987.

Libya admitted for the first time yesterday that West German companies had helped it construct Rabta, although it also maintains that the remote and heavily defended installation is merely a pharmaceuticals factory.

In Bonn the chief government spokesman, Herr Friedhelm Ost, said that new evidence indicated that West German companies and nationals had participated in the construction of Rabta. "Documents now in the possession of the criminal division of the Customs Service are being examined to determine whether there have been violations of export laws that should be pursued by prosecuting authorities," he said.

Customs investigators in Cologne are concentrating on 12 boxes of documents taken from the Frankfurt office of IBI Engineering, established by Dr Barbouti in 1985.

The office, which never had a staff of more than two, reportedly had a huge turnover, was handed over to a caretaker in April last year and closed in July. In an exhaustive inquiry into IBI, *Stern*, the West German magazine, yesterday claimed that London companies had been involved in helping to ship materials for the plant to Libya through Mr Gedopt's two Antwerp companies, Cross Link and J.G. Trading.

Mr Gedopt obtained export licences for raw materials and sophisticated equipment, including computers, loaded at Hamburg and destined for Hong Kong, which were actually loaded in Antwerp and sent to Tripoli on the Cypriot-registered vessel, Wilhelm Schulte, West German Customs officers claimed.

It is understood Bonn was advised that German companies were involved by Western intelligence as early as November, 1987. Last summer Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, also made its concerns known. However, no action appears to have been taken until President Reagan voiced concern to Chancellor Helmut Kohl in November.

This week a West German team from the Economics Ministry has been in Washington.

Government spokesmen here insist there is no evidence yet on which any company can be prosecuted, although Chancellor Kohl said at a news conference on Wednesday that there were indications that West German companies could be involved.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Warsaw Pact's chief replaced

Moscow (NYT) – The Soviet leadership has decided to replace Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the Warsaw Pact military Commander-in-Chief, as part of a shake-up tied to cutbacks in the armed forces, Soviet and Western officials say.

The decision is part of a generational change in the military leadership as the Soviet Army braces for a wave of retrenchment and restructuring. One Soviet official said the Warsaw Pact command was expected to go to Colonel-General Vladimir Lobov, aged 53, a first deputy chief of the General Staff, who has defended calls by President Gorbachov for a leaner military.

● **Praesidium meets:** The Soviet Union's highest state body, the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet, met yesterday to discuss what Tass described as "vital state questions". No more details were disclosed.

Soviet quota rises

Washington – President Reagan has decided to increase the number of refugees from the Soviet Union who can settle in the US this year by 39 per cent and will cut the number of places reserved for South-East Asian refugees (Christopher Thomas writes). The change, which boosts the Soviet number to 25,000, will still not give enough places to meet the demand from Soviet citizens seeking to leave. The State Department estimated that 50,000 people, mostly Jews and Armenians, will apply to enter the US in 1989 as refugees.

It is the first time the US has significantly reduced the quota for any world region to make room for Soviet refugees.

Nurse admits deaths

Wuppertal (Reuter) – A West German nurse accused of murdering elderly patients with injections of lethal drugs told a court yesterday that she had killed three of them out of compassion and one by mistake. The trial of Frau Michaela Roeder, aged 30, dubbed "the Angel of Death" by former colleagues because so many patients died when she was on duty, began on Tuesday, almost three years after her arrest. The deaths of four patients dealt with during yesterday's session, which was adjourned after Frau Roeder said she was ill, were the first of 17 she is accused of bringing about.

Thatcher emphasis

Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will underline the importance of relations with Japan at meetings in London today with Mr Sosuke Uno, Japan's Foreign Minister, only four days after the row over British representation at the Hirohito funeral (Andrew McEwen writes). Mr Uno yesterday expressed his "deepest appreciation" of the British decision, good humouredly fielding questions about suggestions in Britain that the late Emperor should be seen as a war criminal. Mrs Thatcher is expected to ignore the row and emphasize Japan's importance.

Falklands ship sails

Port Stanley (Reuter) – A cargo vessel left the Falkland Islands for Uruguay yesterday in an attempt to establish a sea link with South America for the first time since the 1982 conflict. The Bahamas-registered Indiana I sailed despite a warning from Uruguayan government officials that the cargo and passenger service could be established only with Argentina's permission. Ten Falklands businessmen are on the ship, and some said they were concerned that they might not be granted permission by Uruguay to land or load goods.

Bhopal judge named

Bhopal (Reuter) – India effectively set up a special court yesterday to hear the Government's $3 billion (£1.7 billion) compensation suit for the victims of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster. The High Court of Madhya Pradesh, of which Bhopal is the capital, announced it had appointed Judge Nirmal Kumar Jain to deal exclusively with the suit against Connecticut-based Union Carbide Corporation. Yesterday's move was the second change of judge in a week. The civil compensation suit is being heard in parallel with a criminal case against nine Union Carbide executives.

Bush consults his complete Cabinet over tasks ahead

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President-elect George Bush last night summoned his full Cabinet, one of the most ethnically diverse in US history – and arguably one of the most experienced teams of modern times – for its first assessment of priorities and objectives.

He was due to name his final Cabinet appointee, Energy Secretary, before the meeting got under way. Sources in the Bush transition team said that it would be retired Admiral James Watkins, aged 61, a former chief of Navy operations who headed President Reagan's panel on the Aids crisis.

The incoming Cabinet is predominantly white male, but two Hispanics, one woman and one black give it an unusually high mix. Six members held Cabinet or Cabinet-level posts under President Reagan.

With the selection of Energy Secretary Mr Bush will have one remaining Cabinet-level position to fill – the drugs problem chief. It is not clear whether the post will carry full Cabinet rank. Transition staff said that job would probably go to Mr William Bennett, the former Education Secretary, who is on the hard right of the Republican Party. Many in the education establishment regarded him as a disastrous Education Secretary, presiding over a continuing decline in public education standards.

Before joining the Reagan Cabinet he was chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington. He also taught at the University of North Carolina and North Carolina State University.

There is little controversy surrounding Admiral Watkins, however. He is greatly respected among Washington insiders, with one acquaintance calling him "a take-charge, George Bush-kind-of-guy" who had a reputation for "being his own man". He had a distinguished career as a commander of cruisers and nuclear submarines. He was Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific fleet during 1981-82.

His report on Aids, which most people thought would be a whitewash for the Reagan Administration, turned out to be a highly critical report on lack of government action to tackle the crisis.

The delay in choosing an Energy Secretary – the 14th Cabinet appointment – resulted from Mr Bush's difficulty in deciding whether to choose somebody with an energy background, possibly in the oil industry, where the President-elect built his personal fortune.

President Reagan threatened to abolish the Energy Department. But it has risen in importance because of the need to deal with the nation's decrepit nuclear weapons plants, which it administers for the Pentagon.

The plants, dating from the 1950s, are plagued by disrepair and some have caused grave environmental hazards. Some key facilities have been shut down. Repair and clean-up costs have been estimated to exceed $100 billion (£56 billion).

The department also faces the daunting problem of finding a permanent and safe place for mountains of radioactive waste piling up across the nation in temporary storage.

Mr Bush says the delay in choosing the drugs chief stems from the need to appoint somebody with sufficient stature to work with 33 federal agencies on tackling America's worsening narcotics problem.

A White House welcome



Corridors of power: The First Lady, Mrs Nancy Reagan, greeting Mrs Barbara Bush at the White House in Washington before taking her on a tour of the private quarters.

Final line-up of the top team

Mr George Bush's Cabinet and other key appointments:

Secretary of State: James Baker, aged 58, from Texas; former Treasury Secretary.
Attorney-General: Richard Thornburgh, 56, former Governor of Pennsylvania.
Agriculture: Clayton Yeutter, 58, from Nebraska, former US Trade Representative.
Commerce: Robert Mosbacher, 61, New York born, Texas oil and gas industrialist.
Defence: John Tower, 63, former Texas senator.
Energy: James Watkins, 61, born Alhambra, California, retired admiral and lately chairman of the presidential Aids task force.
Education: Lauro Cavazos, 62, from Texas and a former university president.
Health and Human Services: Louis Sullivan, 55, from Atlanta, Georgia; physician and former medical school dean.
Housing and Urban Development: Jack Kemp, 53, former Congressman from New York.
Interior: Manuel Lujan, 60, former Congressman from New Mexico.
Labour: Mrs Elizabeth Dole, 52, from North Carolina, former Transportation Secretary.
Treasury: Nicholas Brady, 58, former Senator from New Jersey.
Transportation: Samuel Skinner, 50, lately Chicago mass transit official and former campaign deputy.
Department of Veterans Affairs: Edward Derwinski, 62, former Illinois congressman.

Other top positions:
Director of CIA: William Webster, 64, from Missouri, former Director of the FBI and re-appointed CIA director.
Director of Drug Control Policy: William Bennett, 45, born Brooklyn, New York, former Education Secretary.
White House Chief of Staff: John Sununu, 49, former Governor of New Hampshire.
National Security Adviser: Brent Scowcroft, 63, born Ogden, Utah, retired Air Force Lieutenant-General and former National Security Adviser to President Ford.
Director of Office of Management and Budget: Richard Darman, 45, from North Carolina and former Deputy Secretary at the Treasury.
Chairman of Council of Economic Advisers: Michael Boskin, 43, born New York City, economist and educator.
US Trade Representative: Mrs Carla Hills, 55, born Los Angeles, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.
Representative at the United Nations: Thomas Pickering, 57, career diplomat and lately Ambassador to Israel.
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency: William Reilly, 48, of Illinois, lately president of the World Wildlife Fund, Washington.

Armed forces pay a farewell tribute to President Reagan

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Following his stirring farewell address to the nation, President Reagan, as Commander-In-Chief, yesterday took the salute at a military parade – an unusual tribute from the US armed forces, who have fared so well in the Reagan presidency.

The "Farewell Review" was staged at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington on the recommendation of Mr Frank Carlucci, the Defence Secretary. "The tribute is being presented to show the President that we appreciate his strong support for the mission of the Department of Defence," the Pentagon said.

To rousing music from the Marine Band, soldiers, sailors and airmen from all four services, plus the Coast Guard, marched past inside a huge hangar. Bad weather cancelled much of the fanfare, however, including a fly-past by aircraft and helicopters. Four-star generals and admirals in uniform were invited, together with about 1,400 guests and officials.

During the ceremonies, President Reagan was presented with the Department of Defence Distinguished Service Medal. Mr Carlucci said he had restored not only America's national strength, but also its sense of purpose. He was also awarded a medal by each military service.

Mr Reagan paid tribute to the men and women of the armed forces. They had made the "comfortable lives of fellow-Americans possible" and given a "profound form of service to all humankind."

This was the first time in recent history that an outgoing President has been so honoured, and Mr Reagan was clearly moved. He expressed his own vibrant patriotism in his nationwide broadcast on Tuesday night.

He said the support of the American people had enabled his presidency to achieve a "great rediscovery" of freedom, with far-reaching consequences. "We meant to change a nation, and instead we changed a world."

He said the United States had stood again for freedom. As a result "America is respected again in the world and looked to for leadership".

Justifying what he acknowledged as "the Reagan Revolution," he said: "We stood, again, for freedom. I know we always have, but in the past few years the world ... rediscovered it."

Now you can afford BUPA. (Even if you're 74.)

IF YOU THINK you can't afford private hospital care, think again.

BUPA, Britain's leading independent health care organisation, has introduced a brand new scheme, designed to offer the essential elements of private hospital cover to people on a budget.

It's called Budget BUPA and costs from just £8.13 to £27 a month depending on your age – or even less.

If you think that's a small price to pay for peace of mind return the coupon for your free Budget BUPA brochure. Or phone the Budget BUPA Centre free on 0800 010 383 (9am to 8pm weekdays).

To: Budget BUPA Centre, FREEPOST, Staines TW18 1BR.
Please send me a Budget BUPA pack. I am under 75.
PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Surname _____
Initials _____ Mr☐ Mrs☐ Miss☐ Ms☐
Address _____
_____
_____ Postcode _____
Telephone (home) _____ (work) _____
Date of birth |_|_|_|_|_|_| eg 22 August 1922 |2|2|0|8|2|2|
Occupation _____
Are you a BUPA member? Yes☐ No☐
If yes, please give BUPA registration number _____

Budget BUPA

DAN/TIT/030/1/89

Britain feels better for it.

Shamir runs gauntlet of settlers over uprising

From Richard Owen
Jerusalem

After more than a year of fighting the *intifada* on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday faced a new and unexpected threat – the wrath of Jewish West Bank settlers over what they see as his Government's failure to suppress the Arab uprising.

"The settlers have launched an *intifada of their own*," one observer said yesterdayas Jewish settlers clashed with troops near Nablus.

Mr Shamir, who had gone to the settlement of Har Bracha to attend a ceremony honouring three recently murdered Jewish settlers, appealed to the protesting settlers to avoid "a war of brother against brother".

Thirty-two West Bank settlements went on strike yesterday, in a clear imitation of the tactics used by Palestinians in the occupied territories; settlement shops and schools were closed in protest for the first time.

Behind the settlers' anger, which erupted in personal confrontations with Mr Shamir, lies not only a feeling that the *intifada* is succeeding despite the large Israeli troop presence, but a fear that the Shamir Government is under such international pressure that it might exchange at least some territory for peace as part of an eventual Middle East settlement.

Yesterday, the settlers told Mr Shamir and Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, that they felt exposed to Arab violence and insisted that firmer measures be taken. One of the settlers' leaders, Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, said the Israeli authorities "must either defend us or let us defend ourselves".

Mr Shamir, who also attended the inauguration of a new synagogue at the Har Bracha settlement, was met by placards accusing him of being a "traitor".

Mr Rabin told the settlers it was "regrettable" that a large army should be tied down dealing with stone-throwers, but asked them to show patience and "togetherness".

Mr Shamir warned that if Israel were to be torn apart, it would be not by the stones and petrol bombs of Arab protesters but by conflict between fellow Jews.

The spark for the explosion of settler fury was the murder a week ago of a taxi driver from Petah Tikva, presumably by Arabs. The authorities, seeking to defuse West Bank tensions, supported reports that the dead man had a criminal record and was not therefore a suitable subject for political martyrdom.

The settlers none the less put up a stone monument to the murdered man at Yakir, the murder spot, near the Arab village of Haris. It was torn down by Israeli troops, which led to clashes between settlers and troops on Wednesday and again yesterday.

Israeli soldiers seemed nonplussed by their new challengers and uncertain about how to cope with armed Jewish settlers instead of stone-throwing Arabs.

Ironically, the dead taxi driver, Mr Shimon Edri, was one of the three settlers honoured by Mr Shamir yesterday. But officials said the settlers had illegally taken matters into their own hands by trying to put up their own memorial. "It is a matter of who wields the power," one observer said.

The authorities yesterday took the unusual step of placing an Arab district of Jerusalem under curfew while searching for Palestinians suspected of taking part in violence. Police said that the district of Silwan, which nestles under the Mount of Olives, was a known centre of *intifada* "troublemakers".

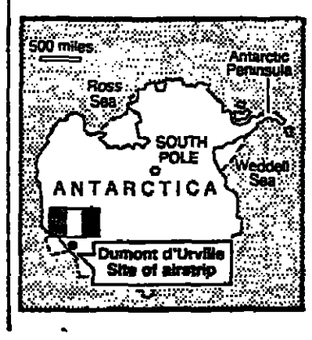
Mr Shamir yesterday expressed displeasure at remarks made earlier by Israel's Chief of Staff, General Dan Shomron, who said the *intifada* could not be completely eradicated because it was an expression of nationalism.

In a further unusual move to halt *intifada* violence, the head of Israeli troops in Gaza, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, has appealed to leaders of the underground Islamic fundamentalist opposition to stop the bloodshed.

The General had a meeting with Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, widely regarded as the spiritual leader of the Islamic fundamentalists, Hamas, and asked him to use his authority to prevent mosques being used for the incitement of violence.

Jerusalem – Israeli fighter-bombers attacked bases in Lebanon believed to be operated by the Palestinian terrorist leader Abu Nidal for the second day yesterday (Richard Owen writes). A military spokesman said the two strikes were on the same target area north and east of the port of Sidon. Witnesses said the Israeli jets destroyed several buildings and caused several casualties.

Greenpeace agrees truce over France's Antarctic airstrip



By David Rowan

Greenpeace protesters at a French Antarctic base agreed yesterday to end their campaign against the building of an airstrip after a week of sometimes violent confrontations with construction workers over the preservation of colonies of breeding penguins in the area.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, a former director of Greenpeace UK, who is leading the campaign for the environmental group, told *The Times* from the Greenpeace ship MV Gondwana yesterday that the vessel would leave the area of the base, at Dumont d'Urville, today.

He said an agreement had been reached with Paris to allow Greenpeace members the freedom to conduct a scientific study at the base, provided they ceased disrupting construction of the 3,600 ft airstrip.

Earlier in the week, attempts by the 33 construction workers to move a hut put up by the protesters at the end of the runway to hamper construction resulted in violent confrontations with the protesters. Mr Wilkinson said he had not seen such a level of violence – resulting in black eyes, cuts and bruises – in 12 years of campaigning.

After discussions with M Jean-Francis Houssin, who is in charge of the French base, Mr Wilkinson said that Paris had offered a day of unhindered freedom to conduct scientific and environmental studies around the base.

In return, the 15 protesters would dismantle the hut, and the Gondwana would leave two days earlier than had been planned.

"We are looking forward to a very fruitful day's research in which we can address the real environmental issues without worrying about violence," Mr Wilkinson said. For the first time France had recognized Greenpeace as a legitimate organization, rather than as "a bunch of terrorists", he added.

Greenpeace claims that the airstrip will destroy penguin and bird colonies on Dumont d'Urville, although France denies this and insists that the runway is necessary because of restricted sea access to the base.

An estimated 75,000 birds, mainly Adélie and Emperor penguins, inhabit the area.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Mujahidin warriors get scent of victory as the Russians press on with withdrawal

Missiles and tea breaks for rebels

From Richard Murphy
Tangui, Afghanistan

JANA SCHNEIDER



Soviet troops, who have been coming into Kabul with their equipment from outlying military posts, preparing for the final withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Swearing in rapid, vehement Persian, Arsala Khan repositions his 82mm rocket tube for another try at an Afghan Army lorry, rumbling along the road 3,000ft below on its way towards Kabul. Once the missile is sighted to his satisfaction, he and his men retreat to a nearby bunker and roar "Allahu Akbar!" (God is supreme) as Arsala presses the firing switch.

There is a loud "whoosh" like tearing silk and, seconds later, a muted explosion and a puff of black smoke on the road. Unscathed, the truck continues around the bend and out of sight and the Mujahidin break for tea while they await more traffic.

In this starkly mountainous area east of the capital, rebel forces have been blocking the Kabul-Jalalabad highway for the past four months. The aim is both to put pressure on the capital and to stop the communist regime from resupplying Jalalabad, an important provincial capital under rebel siege since last spring.

In a striking example of cooperation among the often fractious rebels, the road-blocking assignment has rotated among several different parties in the seven-member, Peshawar-based Mujahidin Alliance. Arsala Khan and his men belong to the fundamentalist Islamic Society (Jamyat-i Islami) party headed by Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani. Jamyat had the job during December.

Under the overall command of Mohammed Anwar, a former teacher and wrestling champion from Kabul, 2,000 Jamyat Mujahidin have been concentrating their efforts on the six-mile stretch east of Sairobi. The Government maintains a garrison of several thousand in Sairobi, along with a few Soviet advisers, to protect a power station supplying the Kabul grid, 12 miles to the west.

Morale is high among the rebels. Commander Anwar said that he does not plan to attack the power station; he sees no point in destroying more of Afghanistan's already shattered infrastructure now that the war is nearly won.

"We are sure that the regime will fall, at the most five months after the Soviets leave, and that the Mujahidin will form the new government," he said. "Why should we destroy our own property?"

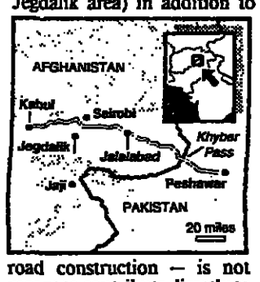
Rebels besieging Jalalabad and the southern city of Kandahar have taken a similar view, refraining from costly attacks on the city centres in the hope that these places will surrender of their own accord once the Najibullah regime collapses.

Commander Anwar's one-month winter operation involved ammunition and food being hauled on horseback, a two-day march through hills and snow from Jamyat's depot in Jaji, near Pakistan. "Supply is a problem for us, so we prefer to use what we have," the commander said.

On the way from Jaji I saw a Mujahidin-operated bulldozer cutting a road towards Commander Anwar's forward base near the village of Jegdalik. A Western diplomatic source in Islamabad speculates that the cost of the road is probably being underwritten by the US Agency for International Development's cross-border assistance programme.

At the rate they are going the road will not be finished for several months; at that point (assuming the war is still on) the Mujahidin will be able to resupply by lorry.

According to the source the cross-border programme — which comprises a range of building projects (including an irrigation system in the Jegdalik area) in addition to road construction — is not meant to contribute directly to the rebels' war effort. Rather, the goal is to provide basic services for civilians, thereby encouraging refugees to return to their homes and discouraging Afghans remaining inside the country from becoming refugees. There are currently five million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran.



Ironically the road between Jaji and Jegdalik, since it runs between a pacified border area and the front, will be used almost exclusively by Mujahidin supply trains and by refugee families fleeing the unsettled areas around Sairobi.

I passed a number of refugees on the way to Jegdalik, including women and children on packhorses and donkeys. Many were carrying all their possessions.

Commander Anwar told *The Times* that most of these people came from villages in the Sairobi area which were recently evacuated by the Government.

"Many refused to give up their sons for military service. Now that their villages are free, the regime is shelling them in retaliation," the commander said.

Indeed, military service around Sairobi is an unenviable fate. Regime prisoners whom I met in Jaji (part of a group of 200 who surrendered to Commander Anwar at the beginning of December) speak of vile food, insufficient warm clothing, and constant fear of attacks from the Mujahidin who attack their posts with rockets during the day and venture down to capture trucks and ammunition at night.

> Bombing is less accurate now, as the rebels' Stinger missiles forced government jets to fly higher

The rebels face many of the same hardships, except that they fear Soviet and Afghan jets rather than the generally roadbound regime infantry.

Because of fog the sky was free of aircraft while I was there, but the Mujahidin spoke of near-constant bombing runs on clear days. The bombing is less accurate than it used to be: since the rebels were equipped with US Stinger missiles, the jets have been forced to fly above the Stingers' 15,000ft range.

Through binoculars I could see brown-clad regime soldiers looking up and down the road between a couple of parked armoured personnel carriers and a cave in the rocks with a shelter.

Talib Jan, a video cameraman, tells me that they are looking for anti-tank mines planted by the Mujahidin at night. Along the road I see three burnt-out tanks, testimony to this tactic's efficiency.

As I watch, a soldier crosses the road to sit down quite peaceably on a low wall overlooking the Kabul River. Suddenly he gets up and sprints back to the rock; seconds later a rocket explodes a scant 20 yards away from his perch.

Late in the afternoon, as long-range artillery fire from regime units in Sairobi and Jalalabad intensifies around our position, Arsala Khan and his men take up Kalashnikovs and rocket-propelled grenade launchers and head off down the mountain to engage the traffic at close range. Talib Jan puts his camera down on a rock, grabs an RPG and runs after them.

An hour and a half later the men are back, tired and dusty. Talib Jan claims that they blew up a tank and a truck and killed six Afghan soldiers before running out of ammunition. From my own observation I can confirm only that they used up all their ammunition and took no casualties. Regardless, we break for more tea and sweets.

On our moonlit way back to Jegdalik we stop in the deserted, ruined village of Shahikhel, so that Talib Jan and another Mujahid can perform the last of the five daily set of prayers required by the Koran. No house is less than half destroyed in Shahikhel. By moonlight the roofless buildings resemble open graves.

I shine my flashlight into a black doorway, but Talib Jan warns me not to venture too close. The Soviet and Afghan troops, he says, mined every house when they withdrew from this area last year. The villagers all left for Pakistan long ago.



Soldiers of the Afghan Army, left to stand alone against the Mujahidin guerrillas, guarding a war memorial in Kabul.

Signs in Kabul point to final troop pull-out

From Edward Gorman, Kabul

Despite recent stern warnings by the Kremlin that the final Soviet troop withdrawal could be delayed, there are indications here that the pull-out has already begun.

Western diplomats in the city say that while no large combat units have yet crossed back into the Soviet Union, they believe the first stages of movement have commenced. "This is it," said one analyst.

The main indicators identified by the diplomats are the closure of the Soviet military hospital on January 4, the airlifting home of patients and Soviet civilians during last weekend, and a continuing high level of activity around the city. Early yesterday, for example, the latest in a daily stream of Soviet armoured convoys moved through the city, apparently coming in from outposts to the west and heading to the main military base by the airport.

In one convoy, covered trucks were followed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers laden with mattresses, furniture and other equipment from the posts which are now being handed over to the Afghan Army.

Mrs Phyllis Oakley, the State Department spokeswoman, said on Wednesday she believed the troop withdrawal was under way.

Diplomats in Kabul remain convinced that Moscow's warnings this week of a delay are intended primarily to try to cajole the Mujahidin resistance leadership to come to some agreement with the Soviet-backed regime, after the failure of Soviet diplomatic efforts to that end. They do not believe Moscow seriously considered a postponement.

During a visit to the Salang Highway about three miles north of the capital yesterday, an Afghan Army colonel said that his unit, parked by the side of the road, was heading to Parwan where it was to take over from the Soviet troops guarding the road.

Colonel Sardar said he had received his orders at 8am yesterday. "We are supposed to occupy the posts which the Russians are leaving," he said through an interpreter.

Asked about Soviet troops in the posts, he said they would leave as soon as his men had completed the 37-mile journey. The colonel added that he was confident the Afghan Army could hold the route, crucial for food and fuel supplies for the capital, against an expected onslaught by the guerrillas. "We are 100 per cent prepared for everything — we know what we have to do," he said.

● MOSCOW: A car bomb exploded in the western Afghan city of Herat, killing or wounding 20 people, Tass reported yesterday.

Famine threatens regime's survival

From Our Special Correspondent, Kabul

Government officials admit that the Afghan capital is facing its worst bread shortage in 10 years, as the Mujahidin resistance steadily tightens its blockade of the city.

Western diplomats here believe the crisis will get worse once Soviet troops leave, assuming Moscow honours its commitments under the Geneva Accords.

They say acute food and fuel shortages alone could force the Soviet-backed regime of President Najibullah to its knees within weeks, causing the collapse Moscow is trying hard to avoid.

The cause of the shortage is the almost continual blockage of the road east to Pakistan through Jalalabad, and increasing guerrilla attacks and blockages of the crucial Salang highway north to the Soviet Union, along which almost all of Kabul's wheat travels. The Western diplomats believe the rebels will close the highway completely once the Soviet troops go.

An official of the ruling People's Democratic Party described the bread shortage as "the worst we have ever seen. We are faced with the problem of snow on the Salang pass and also some activity by the opposition," he said. "It will be a big problem for Kabul if this road is closed."

The shortage of bread is particularly hard-felt in what is an unusually cold winter. Many of the poor live almost exclusively on *nan* (unleavened bread), rice and tea.

For the past week, queues at small bakeries in the capital have been growing steadily, while fistfights and small-scale bread riots have become increasingly common. The worst violence has been at the big state-owned bakery in the city, where supplies for the Army are daily moved out through angry crowds.

At a nearby local bakery Abdul Habib, aged 38, a carpenter with five children to feed, was among scores of people who had waited more than an hour in the cold for just five pieces of *nan*; normally his family would consume at least 15 pieces a day. "Maybe very soon the wheat will be finished altogether and there will be no bread — we must have wheat," he said.

The Government has responded to the crisis by setting up a commission which is expected soon to introduce stiff penalties for those caught hoarding staple items.

Australia declares war on starfish army attacking barrier reef

From Christopher Morris
Sydney

The Great Barrier Reef, one of Australia's greatest tourist attractions, is under attack and being slowly devoured by millions of invading starfish.

The carnivorous, asterisk-shaped purple creature known as the Crown of Thorns has already eaten away a third of the reef, with marine scientists and biologists helpless to stop the devastation.

The Australian Government, facing what has been described as "an ecological disaster", has ordered an inquiry and declared war on the starfish.

The invertebrates eat the coral which form reefs. They attach themselves to the coral by using their suckered, tubed feet and feed by forcing their yellow stomach out and spreading it over the prey. Digestive juices break down the coral. A female starfish can produce as many as 60 million eggs in one breeding season.

So serious is the starfish invasion that scientists and researchers have been ordered not to discuss the crisis publicly. But according to a survey by the Australian Institute of Marine Science, 75 per cent of the hard coral in some parts of the reef has been eaten away or attacked. Overall, the survey found 35.5 per cent of the reef off the north-eastern coast has been invaded. Dr Rupert Ormond, the head of tropical marine research at the University of York in Britain, who has spent three months on the reef in the past year, said: "I was very surprised at the extent of coral damage due to the Crown of Thorns. It was significantly greater than I had expected."



The inner reef near the main tourist centres has been the main victim. Local people say that John Brewer Reef, off Townsville, the controversial site of the world's first floating hotel, is "dead".

The beauty of the coral and the splendid colours, as most visitors to the hotel have discovered, have been replaced by an ugly green algae. But tour operators are loath to speak about the devastation, fearing that holidaymakers will no longer visit the reef.

Mr David Duncan, a former fisherman, said: "I just don't think the scientists realize how bad the problem is. It's like a desert out there, it's just been totally decimated. What's left of the coral has been 90 per cent ruined compared with what it was."

Some experts blame overfishing — the reef's £75 million-a-year industry — for the devastation. One points to the growth in fishing of snapper and emperor fish, the main predators of juvenile starfish, much smaller than the adults. With more juveniles surviving, the adult population is proportionately swollen, placing greater pressure on the reef.

But Dr Ormond said it was dangerous to oversimplify the problem and put its cause down to one such factor. He said: "Ecological phenomena are very complicated and the Great Barrier Reef is one of the most complex eco-systems on Earth. There has been too much concentration on 'one-factor' hypotheses when what we need to do is come to grips with several factors."

He believes that bureaucrats must make key management decisions, even if available evidence is not completely conclusive, to save the reef.

Dr Robert Endean, an outspoken Australian scientist at the University of Queensland who has revealed the vast extent of the reef's devastation, claimed that bureaucrats did not want any detailed investigation because of the impact on the lucrative fishing and tourism industries.

"They would prefer to keep the reason for the outbreaks seen as just a normal event," he said. Dr Endean has predicted that the whole reef could die off, break up and dissolve within 50 years. He has called it an "eco-catastrophe".

But Dr Peter Moran, of the Marine Science Institute, denies any official conspiracy to cover up the spread of the Crown of Thorns.

Now it is hoped that the decision to order an investigation may provide a scientific cure. But as Dr Moran pointed out: "The cure is often worse than the disease."

CHEAPER HOME INSURANCE

For nearly four years, Direct Line has helped hundreds of thousands of motorists to save money.

And now, Direct Line is moving into Home Insurance.

Cutting premiums to up to 20% less than other insurance companies.

Yet, because Direct Line is part of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group, delivering cover of the highest quality.

If you're paying £120pa for your buildings insurance now, Direct Line's no-commission service could shrink that figure to just £96pa.

No brokers or middlemen. You deal direct with the most modern, streamlined organisation of its type.

A highly skilled, friendly team reacting quickly and courteously to everything from your first enquiry to settling claims.

Whether your Home Insurance is due for renewal yet or not, call now on 01-686 8877 anytime 8am – 8pm weekdays or 9am – 2pm Saturdays for an instant free quote.

Or post the coupon opposite. We'll pay the postage.

And you'll discover that not everything in property is going up.

01-686 8877

DIRECT LINE INSURANCE

THE HOME OF CHEAPER INSURANCE

To: Direct Line Insurance, FREEPOST, PO Box 75, Croydon CR9 9LZ

NO STAMP NEEDED

Please send me an estimate for my home insurance. I confirm the property shown below: Is my main dwelling and built of brick or stone and roofed with slate or tile. Is occupied solely by myself, family or partner and is not used for business. I have not been convicted of arson, theft or any offence involving dishonesty. I have not been refused insurance or had special terms imposed. I have not had more than 2 claims in the last 3 years.
If you cannot confirm these statements a quotation may still be possible – contact us NOW 01-686 8877

081

Mr/Mrs/Miss Surname
Other Names
Date of Birth Day Month Year
Address
Postcode
Daytime Telephone No
Which company are you currently insured with?
Expiry date of current policy
FILL IN DETAILS AND POST TODAY

Type of Property (tick appropriate box)
☐ House ☐ Bungalow ☐ Maisonette
☐ Self-Contained Flat
☐ Detached ☐ Semi-detached ☐ Terraced
When was property built? ☐ PRE 1837 ☐ 1837-1919 ☐ 1920-1945 ☐ 1946 on
Number of bedrooms?
Does property have Double Glazing? Yes ☐ No ☐
Does property have an annually maintained alarm? Yes ☐ No ☐
Detached Garage? Yes ☐ No ☐
Are you a member of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? Yes ☐ No ☐
If Detached Garage, is it Single ☐ Double ☐
Is your home occupied 9am-5pm daily? Yes ☐ No ☐
Current Sums Insured
Buildings £ Contents £

Royal Bank of Scotland Group Insurance Company Limited,
Direct Line House, 1 Edridge Road, Croydon, Surrey CR9 1AF
Not available in Northern Ireland

Round-up of Eta leaders hailed by French security

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

French security experts directing the campaign against Eta were yesterday celebrating their capture of the one of most wanted figures in the Basque terrorist organization.

They confirmed that the operation which trapped Señor José Antonio Urruticoechea Bengoechea, alias José Ternera, was part of a much larger co-ordinated sweep that netted several others suspected of belonging to Eta's military wing.

Señor Urruticoechea had been under close surveillance before an elite police unit from the Interior Ministry picked him up on a back road near Bayonne, the heart of the French Basque country. Official sources said he managed to fire one shot from a pistol (he was also carrying a grenade), but the arrest had gone off without casualties.

In a simultaneous raid on the house from which Señor Urruticoechea emerged, police detained another alleged activist, Señora Maria Elena Beloqui Reza, and three French citizens.

Anti-terrorist squads picked up three people in a swoop at Poitiers in which weapons and documents were seized.

One of those detained, Señor Sergio Aranceta, is the subject of an arrest warrant for possessing arms issued by a judge in Madrid in April, 1986: like a woman companion who was also held in Poitiers, he is suspected of involvement in the kidnapping of a prominent Spanish industrialist.

To round off a successful foray on Wednesday, a French gendarmerie unit in the French Basque region arrested Señor José Gabriel Altuna, a Spaniard whose name appeared on the list of some 560 members of Eta which was discovered after a big operation against the Basque organization about 15 months ago. Official sources said yesterday that an explosives manual, various documents and a blank Spanish identity card were discovered in his home.

Most of those arrested are expected to appear before M Michel Legrand, the Parisian investigating magistrate charged with handling terrorist cases, within the next day or two. France's Socialist Government has not hesitated to hand over Eta suspects since it took power last spring, and official sources here emphasize that co-operation with the Spanish authorities remains a priority in "decapitating Eta".



Señor Urruticoechea: Arrest could signal new Eta attacks.

The unresolved issue of Spanish government death squads, allegedly operating against Eta in France, remains highly sensitive.

The warrant issued by a Bayonne magistrate for the arrest of Superintendent José Amedo — late of the Bilbao police's Pure Intelligence Squad — who is accused of having organized assassinations in the name of GAL, anti-terrorist vigilantes, is causing problems.

Despite the generally amicable relations between the two Socialist governments, the Amedo case — involving more than 20 murders committed on French territory — remains a distinctly touchy affair. The French have not hidden their view that continuation of a vigorous, highly effective, offensive against Eta networks depends on acknowledgement by Madrid that GAL did strike across the border and that Superintendent Amedo — now in jail at Guadalajara pending investigation of French charges — must be brought to justice.

● MADRID: Security forces were on alert yesterday for terrorist attacks signalling the end of Eta's unilateral ceasefire after the arrests (Harry Debelius writes).

The Prime Minister, Señor Felipe González, said the arrests were important. He added: "I am pleased and I hope for the best possible outcome." Spain will ask for the immediate extradition of Señor Urruticoechea.

Mexican union leader charged

Mexico City (AP) — Workers in the crucial Mexican oil industry have begun to return to their jobs, ending a series of strikes in protest at the arrest of their union chiefs on weapons and corruption charges.

The Government, however, continued its pressure on Señor Joaquin Hernández Galicia, leader of the powerful Oil Workers' Union. He and about 50 associates have been arrested on fraud, weapons and tax evasion charges, said a spokesman for the Attorney General's office.

Señor Hernández Galicia was arrested on Tuesday after soldiers raided his home in Ciudad Madero, beginning by using a bazooka to blow open a door, the Notimex state news agency said. One federal agent was killed in the ensuing gunfight with his bodyguards. Strikes by refinery workers broke out on Tuesday night after the arrests. The investigation of the union is widely seen as a challenge by the recently installed administration of President Salinas de Gortari.

The Attorney General, Señor Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, denied accusations thatthe arrest of Señor Hernández Galicia was an attack on the union, saying: "It is the prosecution of crime committed by individuals."

Last week Señor Hernández Galicia said that the union would paralyse the oil industry if the Government carried out a threat to privatize operations of Petroleos Mexicanos — or Pemex — the state-owned oil monopoly. Pemex earns about 40 per cent of Mexico's revenue. Under an agreement with the Government, the union controls more than half of Pemex's lucrative drilling contracts.

Authorities said that two of Señor Hernández Galicia's bodyguards, among those arrested in the sweep, reported that he had ordered the 1983 killing of a mayor who headed a union branch, and the Attorney General's office said that Señor Hernández Galicia had told investigators he had purchased scores of weapons in the United States. Police confiscated 200 Uzi machineguns at the house, the spokesman said.



The oil workers' chief, Señor Joaquín Hernández Galicia, flanked by other arrested union officials, standing at the Attorney General's office behind arms allegedly seized at his home.

Guards were posted at petrol stations and refineries and many motorists, fearing shortages, queued for petrol. But workers began returning to jobs later on Wednesday, after a union official called for the strikes to end. A Pemex spokeswoman said production had returned to normal.

Señor Hernández Galicia has had a long-running feud with President Salinas and with Señor Mario Ramón Beteta, who headed Pemex until about a year ago.

Señor Salinas, then Budget and Planning Secretary, and Señor Beteta had cut into the lucrative business Señor Hernández Galicia and the union had enjoyed through the control of Pemex sub-contracts.

Amin sent back to Saudi exile by Zaire

Kinshasa (Reuter) — Zaire yesterday expelled Mr Idi Amin, the deposed Ugandan ruler, back to his home in exile in Saudi Arabia. He was arrested in Kinshasa last week after arriving under an assumed name.

The former President and his son were kept away from reporters before being put on a Zairean government plane to Dakar, Senegal, to board a scheduled flight to Jedda.

"We do not want to give him a platform," a Zairean official said, explaining why he had been kept from the press throughout his stay.

Mr Amin, a former army boxing champion who became one of Africa's most ruthless leaders, ruled Uganda for eight years until he was toppled by Ugandan exiles and Tanzanian troops in 1979. Dubbed "Big Daddy", he was portrayed by the international media as butcher and buffoon.

A Muslim, he fled to Libya and then Saudi Arabia, where he lived quietly on a government stipend with some of his many wives and children.

He arrived in Zaire with one son on January 3 carrying a stolen Zairean passport. The official did not say why the former leader, now aged 61, had tried to return to Africa, but one of his wives, some of his children, and his brother live in Kinshasa.

At the airport Mr Amin could see the aircraft which on Wednesday brought an envoy from President Museveni of Uganda asking for him to be sent to Kampala to be questioned about massacres and human rights abuses. The request was rejected by Zaire, as there is no extradition treaty between the two countries.

Dixons SALE

LAST FEW DAYS!

SAVE UP TO £250 ON AMSTRAD PCs

AMSTRAD PC1640 20MB HARD DRIVE PERSONAL COMPUTER with ENHANCED COLOUR MONITOR

- The PC1640ECD offers colour definition and variety unsurpassed by any other personal computer in its price range
- Enhanced Colour Display and 350 lines supporting a palette of up to 64 colours
- Ultra-high resolution for graphics approaching photographic quality
- 20MB hard drive with 5¼" disk drive
- Delivery and installation included in price

ENHANCED COLOUR DISPLAY

SAVE £250

Was £1249 ex VAT

SALE PRICE £999 ex VAT (£1148.85 inc. VAT)

NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £48 MONTHLY.

SAVE £150 AMSTRAD PC1640 20 MB Hard Drive with mono monitor. Was £949 ex VAT SALE PRICE £799 ex VAT (£918.85 inc. VAT) NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £39 MONTHLY.

SAVE £200 AMSTRAD PC1640 20 MB Hard Drive with Colour Monitor. Was £1099 ex VAT SALE PRICE £899 ex VAT (£1033.85 inc. VAT) NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £44 MONTHLY.

SAVE UP TO £100 ON OLIVETTI PCs

PC1 TWIN DRIVE PERSONAL COMPUTER WITH MONO MONITOR

Includes integrated business software, 'Getting Started' tutorial disk, 12 months telephone hotline support and 12 months on-site service. Was £549 ex VAT

SAVE £50

SALE PRICE £499 ex VAT (£573.85 inc. VAT)

NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £24 MONTHLY.

OLIVETTI PC1 Twin Drive SAVE £100 Personal Computer with Colour Monitor, includes integrated business software, 'Getting Started' tutorial disk, 12 months telephone hotline support and 12 months on-site service. Was £699 ex VAT SALE PRICE £599 ex VAT (£688.85 inc. VAT) NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £29 MONTHLY.

LOWEST FAX PRICES EVER!

BT CF9 Personal Fax Machine. Portable desktop machine, low in price, high in quality. Ideal as an executive fax. Was £995 ex VAT SALE PRICE £795 ex VAT (£914.25 inc. VAT) NO DEPOSIT INSTANT CREDIT. ONLY £39 MONTHLY.

SAVE £200

CANON FAX110 SAVE £200 Was £995 ex VAT SALE PRICE £795 ex VAT (£914.25 inc. VAT)

NEC NEFAX II SAVE £300 Was £1295 ex VAT SALE PRICE £995 ex VAT (£1144.25 inc. VAT)

HURRY – LIMITED STOCKS!

HURRY – LIMITED STOCKS!

AMSTRAD PC1512 Personal Computers Clearance Price FROM £399 ex VAT (£458.85 inc. VAT)

SEIKOSHA SP1200 Dot Matrix Printer Clearance Price £129 ex VAT (£148.35 inc. VAT)

CITIZEN 1200 Dot Matrix Printer Clearance Price £129 ex VAT (£148.35 inc. VAT)

OLIVETTI ET50 Electronic Typewriter Clearance Price £129.99

Limited Stocks – check with your nearest Dixons for availability.

Dixons SALE

360 HIGH ST. BRANCHES NATIONWIDE

For your nearest store and full details –

Phone: 01-200 0200

Instant credit subject to acceptance through Dixons Finance plc (credit brokers) and Club 24 Limited. Written credit details from Dixons Ltd, 46-50 Uxbridge Road, London W5 2SU. Savings based on products sold at Oxford Street and Brent Cross stores.

Dixons CARD UP TO £2000 INSTANT CREDIT typical APR 35.7% (variable)

Crisis in Yugoslavia

Serbs' champion sidesteps top job

From Richard Bassett and Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

The Yugoslav State Presidency yesterday drew up a short list of six out of a possible 23 candidates for the most difficult and unloved job in the country — Prime Minister.

"Who would want to captain a ship which so clearly is sinking?" was how one Belgrade intellectual put it.

The post is vacant following the unprecedented resignation after Christmas of Mr Branko Mikulic and his Government.

The resignation was a watershed, ending the post-Tito period in which politicians replaced themselves like clockwork toys on a strictly rotating basis laid down by the late Marshal Tito, to prevent power becoming concentrated in one republic's hands.

Of the six names drawn up yesterday, two are regarded as favourites: Mr Ante Markovic, a Croat aged 64, and Mr Borislav Jovic, from Serbia. Before the Parliament makes its choice, both men, along with the other four short-listed candidates, must submit their policy to "parliamentary scrutiny". A new government is expected to be formed by the end of next month.

Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the controversial Serbian leader, is also on this short list. But he has made it clear that he has no intention of exchanging his unrivalled power base in Serbia for a post which, as things stand, can lead only to political suicide.

Yugoslavia's economic crisis is worsening daily. Within three months, the new Prime Minister must construct a policy which not only quells growing labour unrest and resentment of increasing inflation, but also appeases the International Monetary Fund which must decide in May on the conditions to renew its stand-by account with Yugoslavia.

Mr Mikulic succeeded in rescheduling the biggest part of the $22 billion (£12.2 billion) debt Yugoslavia owes, but his so-called "austerity" measures failed lamentably to check expenditure and only succeeded in angering the people.

This week's resignation of the Montenegrin Government and party leadership under pressure from demonstrating mobs underlined the weakness of the rule of law and the Federal Government's inability to support local leaders threatened by unrest, largely orchestrated in Serbia.

The Serbian dimension will not make the new Government's task of dealing with inflation any easier. "We need a government which will have guts," said the daily *Borba*.

Mr Mikulic manifestly failed to demonstrate this quality. He was intimidated by labour unrest and believed the solution to be simply to print more money.

Mr Milosevic, by contrast, is widely regarded as possessing the necessary qualities of decisiveness and strength. But he will allow someone else to become discredited before deciding whether to take a bite out of the poisoned cherry himself.

Shipyard lockout

Seoul (Reuter) — South Korea's biggest shipbuilder, Hyundai Heavy Industries Company, said yesterday that it was shutting its yard again after thousands of striking workers demonstrated for higher pay and an end to alleged suppression of union activities. The yard was closed on December 23 after an 11-day strike. When it was reopened a week ago, about 10,000 workers returned to work but radicals have tried to stop others working.

Sikh revenge

Amritsar (AP) — Sikh militants seized four Hindu villagers and hanged them from trees to avenge the execution of two Sikhs convicted in the 1984 assassination of Indira Gandhi, police said.

Tactical move

Brussels (Reuter) — Belgium will impose tight restrictions on any Nato low-flying exercises if the Tactical Leadership Programme in West Germany is moved to its territory, officials said.

Car tax down

Tokyo (AFP) — Japan will cut tax on large cars by up to 45 per cent from April 1 in response to foreign complaints about trade barriers.

Reactor tests

Paris (Reuter) — France is to reopen and test its Superphoenix fast-breeder nuclear reactor, closed 20 months ago after leaks were discovered.

Reward offer

Canberra (Reuter) — Police protection and a reward of $500,000 (£244,000) are to be offered to catch the killer of police Assistant Federal Commissioner Colin Winchester, who broke Mafia drug rings in Australia.

Impala cull

Mbabane (Reuter) — In an attempt to stop overgrazing, Swaziland plans to cull almost half the 5,000 impalas in its Mlawula nature reserve.

President goes

Port Vila (Reuter) — Vanuatu's electoral college has formally dismissed President Sokomanu who was detained last month on charges of inciting mutiny.

Desert threat

Kampala (Reuter) — Uganda's forests could disappear by the end of the century, leaving a semi-desert, the UN Environment Programme said.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل



There are stacks of reasons for flying Piedmont to Charlotte. This isn't one of them.

★ The international plane-spotter gets something of a raw deal at Charlotte airport.

Once the daily Charlotte/Tampa flight from Gatwick has arrived, there remains little to do but sharpen one's pencil and polish the binoculars.



Similarly, there's one feature the landed passengers will find sorely lacking.

That essentially American phenomenon, the immigration queue.

Even spinning out the formalities, those travelling from London are through baggage reclaim and customs within the hour. (An unbeaten claim among American gateways.)

And should you suspect Charlotte is the back of beyond, North Carolina's state capital forms the heart of a spider's web of communications.

358 daily flights will speed you to 76 US cities, among them the 15 largest. Over half the US population is within one hour's flying time.

All in all, the odds on finding as convenient an American gateway are impossibly stacked against you.

The chances of enjoying as attentive a service are equally slim.

Service that's the very essence of good ol' southern hospitality, from the first glass of Sonoma Chardonnay 1985 to the last mouthful from your china plate.

Service so good, you could be forgiven for hoping landing permission is delayed.

Sadly, at Charlotte, you haven't got a chance. ★

PIEDMONT

A Subsidiary of USAir Group, Inc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT RESERVATIONS: TEL NO: 0800-777-333 (FREE). OR CALL YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

January 12 1989

PARLIAMENT

Britain 'enjoying new era of fiscal prudence'

TREASURY

A new era of fiscal prudence had been ushered in by the Government's firm handling of the economy, **Mr Nigel Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the Commons.

Opening the debate on a Government motion to approve the autumn statement, he announced that the date of the next Budget would be March 14.

Public expenditure this year was likely to be the lowest it had been as a share of total national income for more than 20 years. "A further decline in the ratio is likely in the year ahead."

Public expenditure had been further contained by the reduction in the burden of debt interest which flowed directly from the transformation of the massive debts from the last Labour Government, which was equivalent to about £25 billion in today's terms, into a substantial Budget surplus.

Britain's economic success was being widely acknowleged at home and abroad. One sign of this was that last year, despite a substantial current account deficit on the balance of payments, the pound remained strong and Britain's foreign exchange reserves ended the year at a record level.

"Only Labour has failed to recognize the transformation that has occurred to the British economy.

"Even *Prawda* was obliged to point out in an article on Britain last month: 'The left have been in retreat for the past 10 years unable to respond to the Thatcher challenge, unable to adapt to life in the 1980s'" (Conservative cheers).

One of the main reasons for the long-term success of the economy was that the Government had never shirked measures to deal with short-term problems, even if those measures were unpopular.

Sound management of the economy meant acting firmly to deal with the sort of inflationary pressures that had emerged in the second half of last year when it was clear that total spending in the economy had been growing at a wholly unacceptable rate.

"That is why interest rates have had to rise. As every schoolboy knows, the only way in which inflation can be controlled is by a sufficiently tight monetary policy, and that means having the courage to raise interest rates as and when it is necessary to do so. There is nothing new in this. It is what all other successful countries do."

The Government had consistently made clear that it would continue to raise interest rates as necessary. As a result, the rate of inflation, excluding the distorting effect of mortgage interest rates, which had reached 5 per cent in July, was likely over the next few months to rise to 5.5 per cent, the level it reached in the last inflation blip, and then, just as in 1985, it would start going down again.

Of the 12 nations of the EEC only two countries, the UK and Ireland, were daft enough to include mortgage interest payments in the retail price index.

Mr Alan Beith, Democratic spokesman on the Treasury, intervened to say that the Government made home ownership a fundamental objective of its policy, so how could it say that the mortgage rate was not relevant in assessing the rate of inflation?

Mr Lawson said that there were home owners in other European countries in the Community, but of the 12 other nations only two were foolish enough to include mortgage interest payments in their RPI.

It was the country's strong fiscal position that guaranteed that the historic tax reforms and tax reductions in last year's Budget, for which he made no apology, would remain fully in place to the immense benefit of the British economy in the years to come.

He recognized that the rise in interest rates would mean that people with mortgages would have to curb their spending on other things, in a minority of cases considerably, in order to meet the higher mortgage payments.

"Indeed, the policy would not be working if this were not so. And there are growing signs that is is working."

The sharp fall in the personal savings ratio had certainly been dramatic. Equally certainly, the high interest rates, which made savings more attractive and borrowing less attractive, were likely to reverse this trend.

The sharp fall in personal savings had been offset by a sharp rise in company savings as profitability had been transformed, coupled with the improvement in the public finances from deficit to surplus.

> Public expenditure this year is likely to be the lowest it has been as a share of total national income for more than 20 years

Even so, the strength of the recent investment boom had meant that total domestic investment exceeded total domestic savings and the gap had therefore had to be financed from overseas.

"As a result, we have moved into sizeable current acocunt deficit with a surge in imports of capital goods and other materials for industry, superimposed on a slightly less rapid growth in consumer goods imports.

"But as savings rise in response to higher interest rates, particularly with the collapse of the housing boom, and as the growth of spending slows down from last year's peak, the current account deficit will narrow, though this process is bound to take time."

Mr Gordon Brown, shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, moved an amendment declining to approve the autumn statement and deploring the failings of Government economic policies, higher interest rates, higher inflation, continued high unemployment, and worsening balance of payments.

It called on the Government to adopt an economic strategy to sustain growth, combat inflation, move interest rates down and reduce the balance of payments deficit by improving export performance.

He said that the Chancellor's speech was the predictable response of a man who had just heard that his last remaining policy, higher interest rates, had been rejected by his last remaining friend, the Governor of the Bank of England.

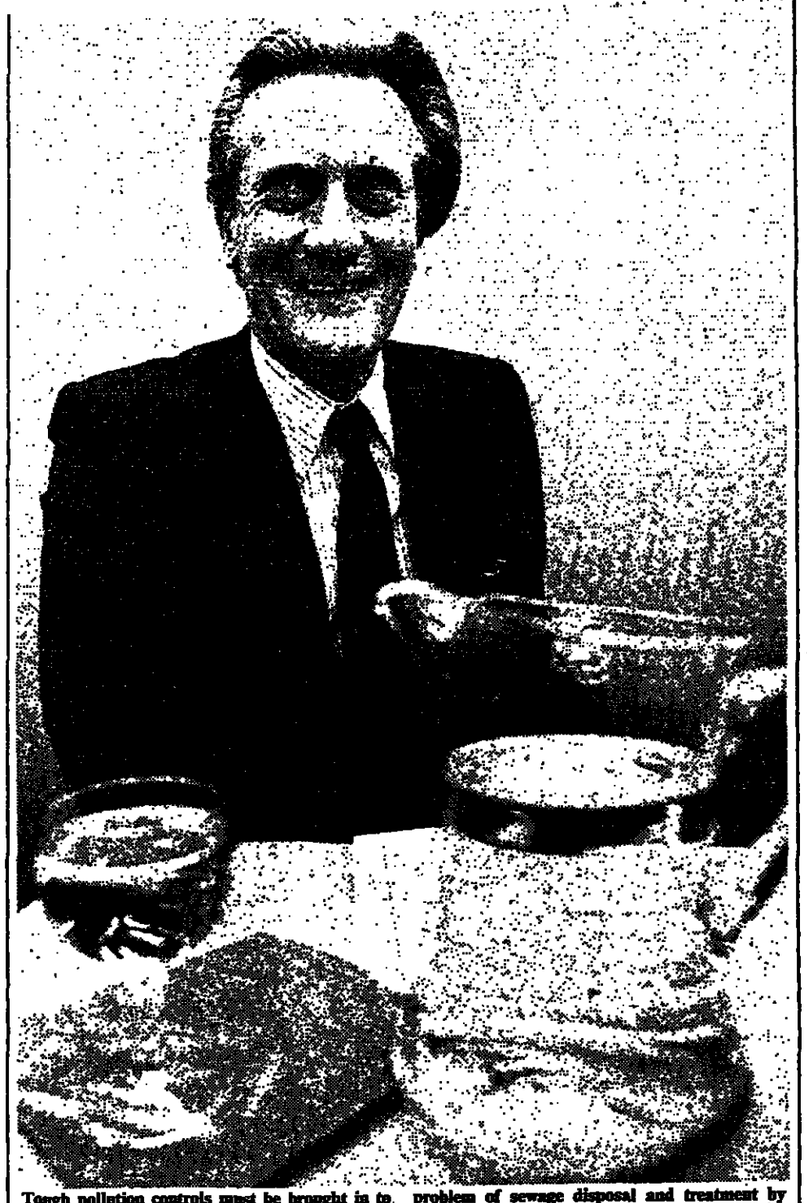
As a backbencher in 1982, Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, had said that the level of interest rates was intolerable. The rate then was 9.5 per cent, 3.5 per cent lower than today.

The Chancellor did not begin to understand the scale and significance of the problems facing millions of people. A few days ago, Mr Lawson had told the press that he believed in targeting. With his enthusiasm for higher interest rates he was now targeting industry, small business, and most of all home owners.

The burden was illustrated by two figures: 10 years ago the typical home owner spent 14 per cent of his income on housing costs. Today, that figure was 24 per cent.

This was not a case of a careful Chancellor whose meticulous house-keeping has been knocked of course by imprudent home owners. "It is careful home owners whose budgets have been knocked off course by an imprudent Chancellor."

MARK PEPPER



Tough pollution controls must be brought in to keep Britain's rivers and drinking water supplies clean after water privatization, Mr Michael Heseltine, former Secretary of State for the Environment (above), said in London yesterday at the launch of a Conservative Political Centre pamphlet on water privatization. He said that the problem of sewage disposal and treatment by water authorities had not been helped over the past few years by public spending curbs. Mr Heseltine, who wrote the pamphlet, *Investing in Water*, with Sir Anthony Grant, MP for Cambridgeshire South West, added that he was in favour of the water privatization programme.

Japan funeral move attacked

The decision that the Duke of Edinburgh should represent the Queen at the funeral of Emperor Hirohito in Japan was sharply criticized in the Commons. During questions about forthcoming business, Mr **Ronald Brown** (Edinburgh, Leith, Lab) questioned the need for Britain to be represented and he described the late emperor as "one of the most notorious killers of all time."

Mr John Wakeham, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the Commons, said that the British Government and people had "repaired quite a number of difficult things of the past", and good relations between the UK and Japan were in everyone's interests.

Educational priorities

Priority in providing nursery education had been given to disadvantaged areas, the Prime Minister said.

Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) had asked whether she stood by the view she took in 1972 when she was Secretary of State for Education, that nursery education should be available for children of three and four years, whose parents wished that.

He asked her to ensure a favourable Government response to the unanimous report on the subject by the Commons Select Committee on Education.

Mrs Thatcher: There has been an increase of 100,000 places in nursery and primary schools..

Libya plant construction

The Government had power to stop the export of equipment that could be used for illegal purposes, such as the production of chemical weapons, but so far persuasion had been enough, **Mrs Thatcher** said during questions.

Mr Teddy Taylor (Southend East, C) had said that in view of the widespread concern about the chemical weapons plant being built in Libya, would the Government take a European initiative to seek to persuade European firms not to provide equipment for the project?

Mrs Thatcher said that persuasion had been enough when people approached the Government about certain orders they had received.

'Few' homes repossessed

More and more people were dreaming of home ownership and fewer than a third of 1 per cent of homes on mortgage were being repossessed, Mrs Thatcher said during questions.

Mr Jimmy Dunnachie (Glasgow, Pollok, Lab) had asked what she would do to prevent the dream of home ownership becoming the nightmare of living in bed-and-breakfast accommodation.

Steel sale

The offer for sale of British Steel raised £2.5 billion and was 3.3 times subscribed, Mr Robert Atkins, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a written answer. More than half a million applications had been received from private investors.

Hotline calls

The Department of Trade's 1992 Hotline has received 108,000 calls since it opened on March 18, Mr Francis Maude, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a written answer.

MP demands a political strategy for peace in Ulster

Demands for a political strategy to bring peace to Northern Ireland were made by **Miss Clare Short** (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab) during question time exchanges. She said that the violence had been going on for 20 years and the proposects were that it would go on for another 20.

The Anglo-Irish agreement was supposed to be the political strategy to end support for the men of violence. The Government seemed to have given up any political strategy or reform and was going for repression which would make things worse.

Dr Brian Mawhinney, Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland: The Government is not embarking on any act or policy of repression. There are acts and policies of repression in Northern Ireland. They are carried out by the Provisional IRA not by the democraticallyelected Government backed by this House.

What would make the situation worse in Northern Ireland would be to take Miss Short's advice and take the security forces out and the British forces back home (Conservative cheers).

Mr Nicholas Baker (North Dorset, C): The policy recommended by Miss Short to remove the troops and security forces will be particularly inappropriate in the light of the present need to remove the explosives and discover the ammunition which is dumped and hidden by terrorists in Northern Ireland.

Miss Short: That is not my view.

Mr Edward Leigh (Gainsborough and Horncastle, C) said that in view of Miss Short's controversial views on the troops-out movement, could Dr Mawhinney consider any policy less likely to help the nationalist community than withdrawing troops unilaterally?

"Can he think of any responsible nationalist politician who supports her views?"

Dr Mawhinney: There is no doubt that the vast majority of people in the nationalist community, who are law-abiding people, have most to fear from the activities of the IRA and that they owe a massive debt of gratitude to the security forces in Northern Ireland.

King's praise for forces

The security forces in the province had prevented what had been predicted to be an appalling end to the year, **Mr Tom King**, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during questions.

"We are at this moment in the teeth of what is intended by the IRA to be a sustained campaign", he said. He paid tribute to the security forces but warned that there was no room for complacency.

Mr King began by saying that 93 people had died during the past year as a result of the security situation in the province.

They included 39 members of the security forces and 54 civilians of whom one third were believed to have been terrorists. The remainder were civilians with no connection with the security forces. There had been no deaths so far this year.

He said that 550 weapons, more than 100,000 rounds of ammunition and 10,500lb of explosives had been recovered in Northern Ireland. The Garda Siochana had recovered more than 300 weapons, about 140,000 rounds of ammunition, 1,100lb of explosives and 380 gallons of nitro benzene.

In addition, a substantial find was made in County Offaly on January 4, which included more than 35 mortar bombs containing a large amount of Semtex explosive. There had been a further important discovery this morning near Dundalk of an amount of ammonium nitrate and nitro benzene.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said that, rather than always talking about the sterile approach of defeating the IRA militarily, Mr King might consider calling together the political parties and church groupings in Northern Ireland for a conference to discuss not merely defeating the IRA but also the political situation as those groupings saw it.

Mr King said that he wanted to encourage maximum dialogue in whatever form was possible between all those constitutional parties who supported the democratic route and did not subscribe to the violence which brought sadness and misery to Ulster.

Mr Barry Field (Isle of Wight, C) asked if the figures for deaths included those such as the grandfather and granddaughter murdered as they returned home from an innocent game of bingo, or the elderly neighbours who were rewarded by an IRA bomb for their kindness by calling on a neighbour. The IRA obscenely called these cases "mistakes".

Mr King said that the figures he had published did indeed include the cases mentioned and those of many others killed in the "evilness" of the IRA's campaign of terrorist violence.

Mr Seamus Mallon (Newry and Armagh, SDLP) said that widespread searches were going on at this moment in Armagh, Derry and Belfast. Were they a result of reasonable suspicions or were they being used to cover up the tracks and sources of specific information? If that was so, it was outrageous to make innocent people suffer. It would fly in the face of every precept of natural and legal justice.

Mr King said there was no question of any searches being made on a random basis. They were made only when there was good reason to believe that there was cause for concern.

He had recently had a complaint about 43 house-searches in Belfast, but seven "hides" had been found. So had 900 mortars, 1,500 rounds of ammunition and home-made explosives. He made no apology for those searches because they helped to save lives such as those of the grandfather and granddaughter mentioned.

Scots' revenue grant 9.8% higher that rates figure

The revenue-support grant in Scotland for 1989-90, the first year of the community charge, would be 9.8 per cent higher than the rate-support grant for this year, *Mr Ian Lang*, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said late on Wednesday.

If councils maintained spending at the same level as this year they should levy a community charge of £200 to £300 as the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Malcolm Rifkind) estimated last month. "If the charge is higher . . . it will be because they are increasing the volume of their expenditure."

Mr Lang said that public expenditure provision for the coming financial year had been fixed at 8 per cent more than in 1988-89, and 4.6 per cent above local authorities' adjusted budgets for 1988-89. It included full provision for the extra administrative costs of operating the community charge.

The increase in aggregate Exchequer grant for next year was 5.5 per cent, but after provision for specific grant payments the increase in revenue-support grant over the level of rate-support grant for this year was 9.8 per cent.

The Revenue Support Grant Order was an extremely good deal for local authorities and domestic taxpayers. "Taken together with the sums of grant being returned to authorities in respect of earlier years, there is every reason to expect community charges to be set at moderate levels."

Mr James Maxton, an Opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, said that Mr Lang had wisely kept his head down and read his brief word for word. If he had looked up and caught anyone's eye he would have burst out laughing because what he was saying was nonsense.

This settlement was more generous than some in the past, but that was not because the Government was feeling generous. It was part cheap political opportunism and part sheer accident.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab) said that the Revenue-Support Grant Order was part of a plot. The Government had thought of a figure for the community charge of about £275 and then cooked the books to get it.

A motion to approve the Revenue-Support Grant (Scotland) Order, 1988, was carried by 283 votes to 146 — Government majority, 57.

Outdated restrictions will go

The following report of the second reading deabate in the Commons on the Employment Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

Wider job opportunities for women and young people, and the removal of outdated restrictions on employers, were the aim of the Bill, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, told MPs.

Moving the second reading of the Bill, he said that the number of school-leavers had started to fall and by 1995 it would have reduced by more than half a million — a drop of nearly 25 per cent. "Employers will not be able to rely on a steady stream of young people to meet their recruitment needs."

They would have to take advantage of other potential sources of recruitment — and women were one of the most important. "This Bill sweeps away a number of archaic restrictions on women's employment.

"It introduces a general rule that equal opportunity takes precedence over restrictions on women's employment. Restrictions are retained only where they can be strictly justified.

"Women will want not only jobs but careers. They will expect not just equal rights but also equal promotion opportunities and the wise employer and the forward-looking profession will recognize this."

It was from the same standpoint that the position of young people had been reviewed. "The philosophgy of the Bill is that young people too are entitled to every job opportunity compatible with a proper concern for their health and safety." They should not be denied access to jobs because of restrictions based on the labour market of the last century.

"All the restrictions on the employment of children — people under the minimum school-leaving age — will be retained." The Bill was concerned with 16 to 18-year-olds.

Safeguards on health and safety were being preserved, as were regulations on working with dangerous machinery and the sale of alcohol.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said that this was a deregulatory measure that would enhance the power of the employer to hire and fire at will. This was a Bill not about increasing employment but about diminishing employment rights.

Mr Fowler's solutions to the demographic gap were to send women down pits and get young people to work longer hours. Young people would be able to work 54 hours a week; 16-year-olds would be allowed to work nights. Mr Gradgrind, he said, would be turning in his grave.

What mattered to women was not the right to dig coal but proper child care and flexible hours of work.

The fatal and major accidents rates for young people in work or on YTS had more than doubled from 54 to 136 per 100,000 of workers over the past 10 years. Exposing youngsters to even longer hours could only increase that figure.

Mr James Wallace, Democrat spokesman on employment, moving an amendment declining to give the Bill a second reading, said that it failed to provide adequate protection for employed young people and eroded employment rights.

The Democrat amendment was rejected by 290 votes to 190 — Government majority, 100, and the Bill read a second time by 290 votes to 216 — Government majority, 74.

Labour Party consultation

Cook adamant on NHS reform

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

Labour intends to press on with controversial proposals for reform of the National Health Service.

The proposals include merit pay for local managers and consultants related to success in reducing morbidity and mortality rates, and financial compensation for patients who have been on waiting lists for an excessively long time.

Announcing the outcome of consultation within the party and the health service on the plans, Mr Robin Cook, the Opposition's chief health spokesman, conceded that they had encountered opposition. Nevertheless, both ideas remained on the agenda in the party's policy review to be concluded at the conference in the autumn.

Mr Cook said that the Institute of Health Service Managers had not found the idea attractive, but elsewhere there had been broad support.

Merit awards for consultants should be linked to satisfying patient needs rather than research output.



Mr Cook: We have encountered opposition

"I certainly will be determined that performance-related pay of management is oriented towards the service they provide for the patient rather than the extent to which they make the accountants smile", he said in a sideswipe at existing practice and the Government's plans in its health review to be published in a White Paper shortly.

Opinion had divided 50:50 over the desirability of waiting list compensation.

Some had seen it as a novel way of giving local managers an incentive to reduce the queues, but others saw it as yet another burden on health authorities hard pressed for cash.

"That one hangs in the balance. I have not given it up entirely because I do think we need to provide a very strong financial sanction on local management — to say if you are not tackling waiting lists you will have to pay for it."

A "very large question marks" hung over regional health authorities as a result of the exercise because they were widely seen as too remote from the communities they served.

With the party's local government spokesmen examining plans for regional government in England and Wales as well as Scotland, their activities could be brought under direct democratic control.

"Were we to set up directly elected regional government, that might provide an interesting dimension to how that could be involved in health care and a replacement for regional health authorities", Mr Cook told a press conference at Westminster.

Solid backing for ideas such as no-fault compensation, a health quality inspectorate, integration of primary care services with district health authorities, and closer co-operation between health and social services departments had emerged from the consultation exercise, which has taken a distinctly consumerist line.

Mr Cook said: "Our objective is to develop a user-friendly National Health Service, which puts the patient at the centre.

"By contrast, the Government appears to be contemplating changes which do not offer any increase in patients' rights, but which put the Chief Secretary to the Treasury at the centre of health care policy."

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday: Security Service Bill, committee stage, first day.

Tuesday: Security Service Bill, conclusion of committee stage.

Wednesday: Debates on Opposition motions on the freeze on child benefits and on provision for pre-school education and child care.

Thursday: Motion on the rate-support grant for England.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion giving unlimited time for debate on the Abortion (Amendment) Bill.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: Companies Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Children Bill, committee, third day.

Wednesday: Debate on Scottish affairs and on court interpretations of parliametary debates.

Thursday: Children committee, fourth day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on Aids.

Football club cards 'cannot come quickly enough'

The Bill introducing a football membership scheme could not come quickly enough for those MPs whose constituents had their houses near football grounds, Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C) said during business questions.

He said that the various press reports that there were rumblings on the Conservative benches against the Bill were unfounded (laughter and protests).

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said that this was an important measure and there was no room for complacency in any part of the House.

There had been more than more than 6,000 arrests at football league matches and 6,500 ejections from grounds in the last season. The Bill would be started in the House of Lords. In his view, this was perfectly proper.

Mr Frank Dobson, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs, had said that such a controversial Bill should come first to the elected House.

"As we understand it, this is a very contentious Bill which invades the civil liberties of tens of thousands of people wishing quietly to go about their lawful business."

It involved the disclosure of confidential personal information to commercial companies. This Bill showed that the Government was prepared to allow law-abiding spectators to be taken as hostages.

Government 'may break up UK'

PRIME MINISTER

The Government was warned during Prime Minister's question time that it could be presiding over the break-up of the United Kingdom if it did not accede to the wishes of the people of Scotland to look after their own affairs.

The "timely" warning came from Mrs Ray Michie, Democrat spokesman on Scotland, who said that if the Prime Minister continued to ignore the wishes of the majority of Scottish people for constitutional reform and a right to look after their own affairs with their own Scottish parliament, her Government and the Conservative Party could be responsible for the break-up of the United Kingdom.

Mrs Thatcher said that many MPs had been through the argument before and had been through all the polls and the referendum and knew full well that the House was split, not always on party political grounds.

"We are the party that believes in the union of the United Kingdom and will continue to be so. I would find it very strange if the Labour Party believed in separatism for Scotland."

هكذا من الأصل

Brmm Brmm...Brum catches up

Birmingham is shaking off the recession and its *Crossroads* image. Britain's second city, 100 years old this year, is speeding ahead as a cultural, economic and tourist centre. Sally Brompton investigates

DUNCAN BAXTER and SUZIE MAEDER



Ring of confidence: Birmingham's Bull Ring, which is to get £400 million face-lift, and (right) Simon Rattle, principal conductor of the CBSO

Birmingham's remarkable coup in luring Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet away from ballet's historic home in London to the Hippodrome is the latest achievement in what has become the city success story of the century.

Not only has Birmingham emerged from the economic depression of the 1970s which put 200,000 people out of work and ravaged the big industries which were the life-blood of the area, but it has also suddenly become a leading international cultural, sporting and conference centre, the fifth most popular town in Britain in terms of foreign visitors.

Last year Britain's second city was ranked bottom of the league in a report by Mintel, the market research company, on the quality of life in Britain's cities. But London was only four places higher and the report noted the capital had the highest proportion of people who wished to move to another part of the country.

When the Bolshoi Ballet comes to Britain it visits London and Birmingham. Even the taxi drivers are being encouraged to learn French and German to converse with foreign tourists.

The announcement that Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will be moving to the 1,950-seat Hippodrome in August 1990, could hardly have been better timed, since this weekend is the start of Birmingham's year-long festivities to celebrate its centenary as a city.

Official celebrations begin with a Queen Victoria lookalike state visit and fireworks display. It is a fitting tribute to the spirit of the people. The city's seemingly painless transformation from its tradition of heavy metal engineering — it used to be known as the city of 1,001 trades — to one of culture is the result of a pragmatic city council (Labour-controlled since 1984) which has put the good of the city before any political backstabbing.

"Despite their political differences, the council is generally accepted to be pushing the wheel together," says Richard Green, assistant director of development. "It is a measure of their drive to get things done that over the past 10 years no major commitment to spending has been abandoned — something which is crucial in terms of forward planning. Certainly in economic development terms, all those things perceived to be for the good of the city were supported by the opposition party at the time."

Birmingham's potential as a new artistic force was recognized by conductor Simon Rattle when he was invited seven years ago to become the resident conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. For a young conductor — he was then 26 — it was arguably a great opportunity. But the fact that he regularly turns down lucrative and prestigious offers from other orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, is an indication of the strength of his commitment.

Today the CBSO is one of the most highly regarded orchestras in Britain. The new symphony hall, which is being built as part of the £120 million convention centre, is modelled on the concert halls of Europe. It will be a fitting home for Rattle's brave new orchestra.

The opening of the National Exhibition Centre in 1976 spearheaded Birmingham's economic re-emergence. With its 12 halls — three of them opened recently — it is the biggest exhibition centre in Britain and one of the biggest in the world. With the NEC as a base to attract tourism, a huge programme of hotel building began. There are 160 hotels of two stars and above in and around the city, with another 20 being built in the next three or four years and yet another 20 waiting for planning permission.

Last year, visitors to the city spent £390 million, helping to boost the 73,000 jobs dependent on tourism. "The consequences of all this development is that Birmingham people see a substantial rise in job opportunities," says John Charlton, chairman of the city council's general purposes committee. "The building industry was badly battered by the recession but now there's a shortage of skilled building labour. There's a whole series of spin-offs in terms of job opportunities and wealth creation."

The effects of the recent depression on Birmingham were all the more devastating because previous economic black periods had somehow left it relatively unscathed. This time Birmingham's heavy industry took the brunt. "I think the recession that hit the city five years ago was a surprise," says Green. "Birmingham people always expect to bounce back, but this time they had to work very much harder to do that. The long tradition of being a manufacturing centre was always something in which people took a lot of pride. They've had to come to terms with the fact that the world is changing."

Confidence pervades the city. Birmingham may have failed to win the contract for the last Olympics, but it has its own annual Monte Carlo — the Superprix — which is the only street motor racing event in Britain and which required an Act of Parliament to allow it to go ahead. Next week the European Skating Championships will be held in the 12,000 seat NEC; and in June, the Royal International Horse Show will take place there. A national indoor sports arena is being built beside the convention centre which will attract even more international sporting events.

But it is not just the leisure areas which are burgeoning. The infamous Bull Ring, Birmingham's pride and joy in the 1960s and now a monument to grafitti-coated decay, is to be rebuilt in a £400 million Continental-style arcade, renamed The Galleries, and owing more to the 19th-century arcades of Milan than the shopping habits of the West Midlands. Another new shopping centre, the Pavilion, has already won several architectural awards and the Palisades above New Street Station has been elegantly refurbished.

Prince Charles's fears that Birmingham was heading architecturally for an unmitigated disaster has yet to be proven. Mention his recent comments to a stalwart of the city and he will retort that the Prince chose to spend his fortieth birthday in a disused tram shed there. To counter Prince Charles's comments, the city immediately hit back with a Good Design Initiative competition to attract designers and students of architecture to design a range of buildings for the city. It is all aimed at attracting money into the city, from both businesses and tourism.

With its slogan — The Big Heart of England — intended to capture both its geographical location and warm and welcoming spirit, the council created a Convention and Visitors Bureau in 1982. Significantly, the bureau is deeply involved with the cultural aspects of Birmingham's revitalization and has brought with it a computerized box office system linking all the theatres and concert centres.

Last year they sold more than £1 million worth of tickets. "There is no doubt that we are an aggressive marketing organization," the spokeswoman for the Convention and Visitors Bureau says. "We want to encourage visitors to Birmingham of whatever sort, but having looked at what we've got to offer here we do concentrate on the business tourist and exhibition and conference-goer."

Last year, staying visitors spent £390 million compared with 170 million in 1983. To fill the hotels when the weekday businessmen and women leave, the city has created its warm-hearted weekend scheme — £20 a night weekend packages in three or four-star hotels. More than 1,500 visitors took advantage of the scheme last year, mostly British, keen to dip a toe in Birmingham's cultural scene. The city is also exploiting the hi-tech market and more than 50 companies now inhabit the Aston Science Park.

The University of Birmingham has its own Institute of Research and Development to encourage links between academia and industry.

Perhaps it is all a throwback to the days when Joseph Chamberlain described Birmingham as "the best governed city in the world" after initiating his programme of nationalization in the one-time market town. Wide streets and a centralized transport system followed, and possibly it is that legacy of civic pride which remains today.

Initially, the council's forceful promotion campaign was greeted with cynicism by much of Birmingham's one million population. The unemployed, in particular, did not take kindly to the glamorous posters trying to attract new business. But with jobs returning, buildings shooting up and the economy beginning to boom, their cynicism is fading. The city hopes that the arrival of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will add to their enthusiasm.

TOMORROW

In the Review section: Here goes with telemark as Norway's elegant deep-snow ski style spreads to the Alps. Plus Frances Bissell, having a last fling with the pheasant

Voice of the people



CRAIG BROWN

STARTING TODAY! The return of STAFFORD BEEDY. The Voice of Common Sense. The Eye of the Nation. The Moustache of Decency. THE COLUMNIST THE POLITICIANS CAN'T FAIL TO IGNORE.

Every week, STAFFORD BEEDY casts a canny eye over the events of the day. The other eye he keeps firmly closed. Candid. Controversial. Corduroyed. STAFFORD BEEDY is THE MAN WHO THINKS LIKE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO THINK LIKE.

Stafford Beedy is delighted to be resuming his column. "Let's face it," he says. "One thing's for sure. Heaven help us."

GRIPE OF THE WEEK: Yesterday, I queued for more than two hours to see *Phantom of the Opera*. Reaching the front of the queue, I was informed by an impertinent young man that he could on no account sell me a ticket for the show.

"Why ever not?" I enquired. "Because this is the queue for the London Planetarium. You want Her Majesty's," he replied. Cursing, I transported myself halfway across London and queued for a further half hour, only to be told that I was at the head of the queue for a Safeway checkout till, and if I could find nothing I wished to purchase, there was little point in my queueing.

By now, I was fuming. I demanded to see the young manager, who, it transpired, seemed to see little reason to wear a bowler hat when about his duties. He curtly informed me that they could not sell me even a standing ticket for *Phantom of the Opera*, and that I should apply in person to the theatre in question.

Later, following a further queue of one-and-a-half hours, it emerged that I was in the line for the Boat Show. The long and the short of it is that *Phantom of the Opera* has lost one valuable customer. Is it any wonder that we are forever hearing whines for further subsidies from London's theatres? One thing's for sure. Heaven help us.

● KEEP IN TOUCH WITH STAFFORD BEEDY . . . I hear on the grapevine that . . . close friends tell me that the Duchess of York's first child, expected soon, will be a boy . . . Outsider Michael Dukakis is now a dead cert for the American Presidency . . . The "In" term for 1989 will be Yuppie . . . Fiery actress Vanessa Redgrave makes her return to the West End stage shortly in the Peter Hall production of *Orpheus Descending* . . .

● So. What's all this fuss about salmonella? Let's be frank. When I was a lad, the streets of our so-called Inner Cities were not full to the brim with "youfs" sporting obscene haircuts, hell-bent on knifing to death all and sundry. Far from it. Our street danced to the sound of the familiar clink-clink-clink of cheery neighbours spooning nutritious items into the mouths of passing strangers, always ready with a wise old adage and a merry wink.

Our doors were ever open to any passing tinker who wished to avail himself of the contents of our stewpot. In exchange we would ask them for no more than a cheery rendition of "Any Old Iron". (Whatever happened to the tune you could whistle, by the way?)

As a child, I used to long for Thursdays, because on Thursdays Gran would serve us up lashings of piping-hot salmonella. It was a hearty form of rice pudding, delicious with treacle, and it never did us any harm. I issue this formal challenge to Mrs Currie. Come to dine *chez-moi*, and Ma Beedy will serve you up the best salmonella pudding you've ever tasted. And a bottle of bubbly will be yours if you fail to ask for seconds.

● I never watch the dreaded goggle box. Never have, never will. The Beedy family prefers to revive the old-fashioned art of conversation, coupled with musical get-togethers on the hour, every hour.

So it came as a shock for me to learn last night from *News At Ten* (which followed a first class repeat of *Cagney and Lacey*) that Satellite TV, all 300 channels of it, will soon be available in this great country of ours.

This will be greeted as a major advance by all reasonable people. Television enriches our lives, and it stands to reason that the greater variety of American cop shows there are on offer, the better it will be for all of us. I've already ordered my "dish", and I advise you, most urgently, to do the same.

Now On SALE

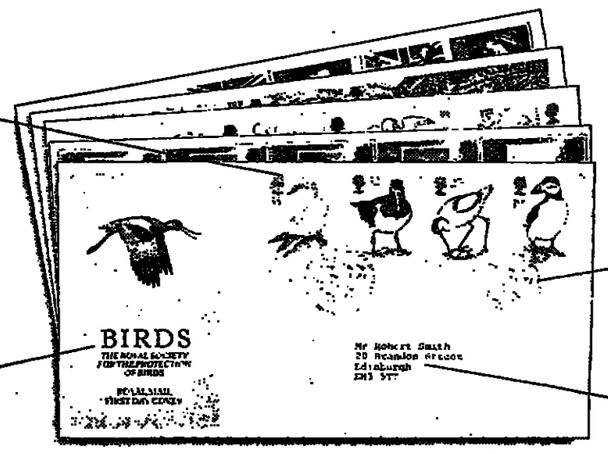
WINTER SALE REDUCTIONS
ON OUR COMPLETE RANGE OF
KITCHENS, BEDROOMS & BATHROOMS

FREE DESIGN SERVICE
COMPLETE INSTALLATION SERVICE

SMALLBONE of DEVIZES

• HARRODS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, SW1
91/93 WIMPOLE STREET, W1
17 WIGMORE STREET, W1
105-109 FULHAM ROAD, SW3
12-13 WATERLOO STREET, BRISTOL 8
10-11 NORTH STREET, GUILDFORD
46 KING STREET, KNUTSFORD
26 CASTLE STREET, EDINBURGH
21 LONDON ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS
19 HOLYWELL HILL, ST ALBANS
16 THE PARADE, LEAMINGTON SPA
• Kitchen Showroom

RING 0734 591459 FOR BROCHURE



Every First Day Cover carries a full set of Special Stamps celebrating important anniversaries, events and personalities. The January 17th issue celebrates the 100th year of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Pictured are the Puffin, Avocet, Oystercatcher and Gannet.

The envelope of each First Day Cover is printed with a special design complementing the theme of the Special Stamps.

Each First Day Cover contains a card giving background information on the issue.

Each set of stamps is cancelled with a specially designed pictorial first day of issue postmark.

Your First Day Covers will be personally addressed to you and sent through the post to your home address.

Now there's an easier way to collect Britain's sought-after First Day Covers.

For Stamp Collectors – a special service from the Royal Mail.

It's not difficult to appreciate why Special Issue First Day Covers are admired by people of all ages.

These beautiful and colourful collectors' items capture different aspects of our British heritage. Past issues have commemorated the Royal Wedding and historic events such as the Spanish Armada and the Australian Bicentenary.

What really sets these personally addressed First Day Covers apart is the fact that they are withdrawn from sale immediately after the day of issue. This makes them as unique as the events they depict.

But it also means that if you forget the day, or cannot get to the post office, you miss the opportunity forever.

Well, now you can overcome this inconvenience and be sure of collecting your First Day Covers without even leaving your home.

A year's First Day Covers delivered directly to you for as little as £15.

Save yourself all that time and effort. Let the British Philatelic Bureau, a Royal Mail service, do all the work for you.

Become a Bureau customer and we'll send you your First Day Covers automatically – as soon as each new set of Special Stamps is released.

For as little as £15, you will receive all Special Issue First Day Covers issued during the next 12 months, including among others Food and Farming, Games and Toys, Industrial Archeology and the Lord Mayor's Show.

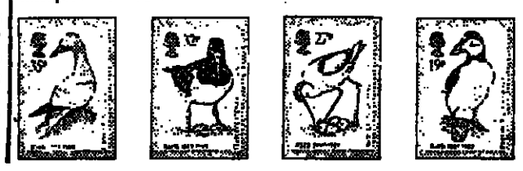
You'll find our First Day Cover album is ideal to display your collection. It comes with clear plastic sleeves which hold up to 70 covers and costs just £12.45.

Place your order now by filling in the coupon. Or use your credit card by calling us FREE on 0800 626 558.

You can then look forward to collecting Britain's historic First Day Covers the easy way – as a customer of the British Philatelic Bureau.

Birds Postcards FREE

When you order your First Day Covers from the Bureau, you'll receive these postcards FREE.



British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon St, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT.

Credit Card Line. Phone free on ☎ 0800 626 558 lines open 7 days a week, from 7am – 8 pm

POST BY 17th January to ensure you receive your Birds First Day Cover. No stamp is required. Postage is FREE.

FIRST DAY COVERS THE EASY WAY

To: BRITISH PHILATELIC BUREAU, FREEPOST, EDINBURGH EH3 0HN

[ ] I would like to receive First Day Covers starting with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds issue.
To open an account I enclose:
[ ] £30 [ ] £25 [ ] £15 A year's First Day Covers costs approximately £15.
I also require ____ First Day Cover Album(s) at £12.45 each. Total £____
Grand Total £____
[ ] I enclose my cheque made payable to the British Philatelic Bureau.
Charge my [ ] Access [ ] Visa Account
Card No
Expiry Date ____ 89/IX:B

(Mr/Mrs/Ms) ____
Address ____
____ Postcode ____
Signature ____ Date ____
[ ] Please send me details of other stamp items you offer.

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery of your first order. The prices, which include VAT at the current rate, are subject to any change in the face value of the stamps themselves. All orders are subject to availability.

British Philatelic Bureau
A Royal Mail Service

TIMES DIARY

SHEILA GUNN

Never before have their Lordships been so fiercely lobbied about a piece of legislation before it has even been sighted. In fact I can reveal that by the time the football identity card Bill is given its first reading on Monday when the peers return to work it will amount to a mere couple of pages. It has been cut back to fewer than 20 clauses in the hope of limiting the scope for amendment, leaving the details to be worked out by the new Football Membership Authority.

Particular targets for the flood of literature are the 56 peers noted by the whips as "interested in football". They include club presidents, such as Lord Havers, formerly Attorney General and Lord Chancellor (Wimbledon), and the Duke of Marlborough (Oxford United); a club patron, Lord (Harold) Wilson (Huddersfield), and assorted fans: the Bishops of Bradford and Chelmsford; the Dukes of Westminster and Devonshire and three Marquesses (Ailesbury, Bath and Camden).

It will be interesting to see which way Lord Prior votes. The former Cabinet minister is an ardent fan of his local Ipswich Town. He is also chairman of GEC, which is laying on demonstrations for MPs, peers and football officials of electronic turnstiles in the hope of landing lucrative contracts from the 92 League clubs which will be obliged to install them to scan the ID cards.

Lord Caithness, the Environment Minister, sent an eight-page letter to peers of all parties during their Christmas break in an attempt to stave off trouble over the Bill. Since it does not appear to be winning him many friends he is significantly leaving most of the work to Lord Hesketh, the Lords' health spokesman. Another sign of Government anxiety is the appointment of Tristan Garel-Jones, a politically damp but ruthless Government whip, to twist the arms of doubting Tory MPs, even though the Bill will not arrive in the Commons until after Easter.

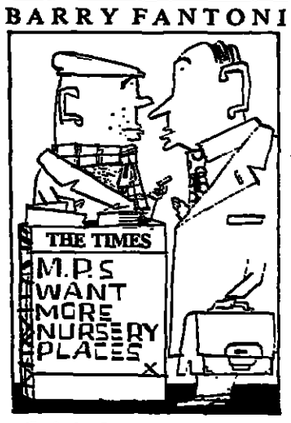
Lord Graham of Edmonton (Labour) is meanwhile stitching together an all-party group of peers to work out campaign strategy against the Bill with Jack Dunnett, the Football League chairman, and Irving Scholar, chairman of Graham's local team, Tottenham Hotspur, on January 24. Two days later Colin Moynihan, the Sports Minister, is planning another attempt to sell the idea to club chairmen before the Lords get down to detailed work on it.

As well as antagonizing football fans and administrators, the Government shows scant regard for horseracing. Mrs Thatcher's chosen date for the last general election meant that the campaign clashed with Derby week, and MPs had to take the oath for the new parliament during Royal Ascot. Now, not for the first time, Nigel Lawson has pencilled in his Budget for Tuesday, March 14 — opening day of the Cheltenham National Hunt festival.

Guess who has not been invited to Lord Tonypandy's 80th birthday shindig at Cardiff Castle at the end of the month? The name of Lord Callaghan of Cardiff is notably absent from the distinguished guest list for the grand civic dinner to honour the former Speaker. Perhaps it has something to do with the dispute between them over George Thomas's memoirs, which revealed the long-standing hostility between the two Cardiff MPs.

But togetherness will rule at Labour's Burns night party at Battersea town hall on January 24. Black MP Paul Boateng threatens to celebrate his Scottish ancestry by donning a kilt plus full regalia.

BARRY FANTONI



'Isn't the Chamber big enough?'

As Sir Leon Brittan settles down to his new job as EEC commissioner he is going to great lengths to make sure he is not forgotten at Westminster. In his Brussels *cabinet* of top civil servants he has created a new post of liaison officer — to be filled by David Curry, MEP for North-east Essex and MP for Skipton and Ripon — to keep him in touch with the House of Commons. The *chef de cabinet* will be, somewhat confusingly, Jim Currie, at one time a Scottish Office official who was part of the British mission to the EEC. Currie's No 2 will be Anthony Cary, who served as private secretary to Malcolm Rifkind and Lynda Chalker at the Foreign Office.

● Paul Channon got a lot of flak for flying off to the Caribbean island of Mustique after the Lockerbie air disaster. But it emerges that he was merely following his headmistress's orders. Predicting the fuss it would cause, he sought her sanction for the trip — and received it in typically decisive terms. "You must go," she told him.

Those with suspicious minds might conclude that the timing of Nicholas Ridley's announcement on stopping the mass take-over of our water companies by the French might not be totally unconnected with the publication of Michael Heseltine's pamphlet calling for the same thing less than 24 hours later. The two have repeatedly clashed over how much of southern England should go under concrete.

However, the Environment Secretary's successful pre-emptive strike against Heseltine was not without its sacrifice. By Wednesday afternoon, when Ridley unveiled the scheme in the Commons, he had failed to persuade Peter Walker, the Welsh Secretary, to adopt it. Walker dug his toes in and insisted on better protection against hostile bids for Welsh water.

Bernard Levin on a darker side to the Great Ormond Street appeal

When fame brings fortune

Only Scrooge, if he, would not feel a lift of the heart at the news that the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Appeal has reached its target of £42 million. The hospital is an institution known and admired throughout the world, not least because of the generosity of J.M. Barrie, who signed over to it the royalties from his ghastly but eternally popular *Peter Pan*, which sustained it until the copyright expired. Innumerable parents have had cause to bless its existence; indeed, it is possible that if I had not spent some time there as a child this column would have had to be written by someone else, and the nation would have been infinitely impoverished, even though it might not have been able to work out just why.

The fund-raising was done with considerable skill, starting with its name, the Wishing Well Appeal, and going on with the striking "logo" of a tear. I salute all those involved, notably Lord Prior, the appeal's chairman; may the hospital continue to flourish until disease among children is unknown.

And yet I think that, without encouraging anyone to spit in the loving-cup, there is something more to be said. The Great Ormond Street appeal succeeded not only because it was well-planned and well-run but also because the institution was well-known and well-loved. But what about the Lesser Ormond Street Hospital in Muckleton-on-the-Marsh? It, too, urgently needs funds for renovation, new equipment and more room for parents when their children are being treated there; the members of the Muckleton Hospital Appeal Committee are as devoted and hard-working as their London counterparts, and assuredly the hospital does not lack friends among the people of Muckleton, not to say the whole county of Wofffleshire. Only, you see, the Muckleton hospital doesn't have *famous* friends.

This sounds like a quibble, and a circular one, at that. But wait. While you are waiting, contemplate the feature on Oxford University fund-raising that appeared in this paper on Monday. Oxford is seeking £200 million (aren't we all?), and is turning to American methods to find the sum; I have no doubt that it will be forthcoming, and hardly less doubt that it will be deserved. But what about such places, no less imaginary than Muckleton, as the Universities of Southampton, Exeter and Aberystwyth? They, too, have great needs, many far more urgent than the establishment of a Chair of Assyrian Numismatics; yet they can number few multi-millionaires among their alumni, whereas at Oxford, as we pointed out with something less than perfect delicacy, the fund-raisers can count on getting into the ribs of Sir John Sainsbury, Sir Adrian Swire, Lord Cowdray and Mr Garry Weston (to name but a few with exceptionally capacious pockets), with far greater hopes of success than Bingo Little could muster when trying to touch Oofy Prosser for a spot of the ready in the Drones Club.

Unto every one that hath shall be given. Does it still sound like a quibble? How, you may ask, would an unknown hospital or an unfashionable university be helped by envying those institutions which can count not only on loyalty and affection but rich and prominent supporters? Obviously, it would not. But it is not an egalitarian zeal that seizes me; it is the discovery of a flaw in the argument for private funding to eke out or even wholly replace the resources of the public purse.

Not long ago — I think it was for the rebuilding fund — the Royal Opera House launched an appeal for donations, the bigger the better. It was a huge success, not least because the programme recorded the names of the benefactors and the size of their benefactions. No one who reads me on the subject of opera will suppose that I begrudge that beloved house a penny; yet I dare say that a similar collection on behalf of the Welsh National Opera to stop the leaks in the roof, or for Kent Opera to build a roof in the first place, and even a few walls as well, would not have raised a hundredth of Covent Garden's bounty, not even if they had promised to print the names of the donors in capital letters, underlined in red.

Necessary private money for vital or important institutions should not depend upon the number of famous faces which appear on the appeal posters, but it does. Worth and need cannot be measured by glamour, but they are. There is something wrong here, even though the famous and glamorous are not to blame for it. The Education Secretary recently told Oxford that it could not expect any extra money from the Government, for however important a cause; the shoe pinches elsewhere, however, for the truth is that Mr Baker did *not* give that gloomy news to Oxford, but to our universities as a whole, and it is simply impossible for many of them to keep their heads above water, however assiduous, thorough *and successful* they are at fund-raising.

When William Rees-Mogg (late of this firm), as chairman of the Arts Council, introduced his policy document, *The Glory of the Garden*, some of the questions which followed his presentation implied a criticism of his announced intention to tilt the balance somewhat further towards the regions and correspondingly further away from London. William can be very decisive when he tries, and he looked over the top of his spectacles and said bluntly and with a touch of passion that it was simply unacceptable for London to have the best arts and the rest of the country to have inferior arts. But the Arts Council, once the money has been handed over, is master of its own house; it can allocate the funds as it pleases. No such control can exist over private money, yet the principle is the same.

I wish Great Ormond Street every possible good fortune, certain that no fortune could be too good for it. But I also wish good fortune to Muckleton, where I learn that the roof has just fallen in on the operating theatre. I believe that there is a compelling case for some easing of the iron rule of private funding; at the very least there is a case for more thought about the effects of the iron rule. That tear-drop on a child's face brought in the millions; but the very sound of sobbing would not have raised £42 million without the stars, the publicity they engendered and the resultant response. Ask the sick in Muckleton.

Gerald Kaufman interviews Yassir Arafat

Steps to a lasting peace

I had been invited to meet Yassir Arafat some considerable time ago, and decided to pick up the option after his key declarations at Geneva last month and my own subsequent visit to Israel, where I saw several senior cabinet ministers.

When I arrived in Tunis at the beginning of the week Arafat was absent from his headquarters. We finally met at a secluded and heavily-guarded villa on the city's outskirts, Arafat beginning the conversation with profuse apologies for the delay, caused by unexpected stop-offs in four countries in less than three days.

I had indicated to his staff that I wanted not a formal exchange of views, still less a stilted exchange of courtesies, but to question Arafat intensively on a wide spectrum of subjects so that I could gain a clear perspective of his position on crucial issues. Arafat readily consented, also making clear that as far as he was concerned there was no time limit. So, starting at 9pm, we did not finish until midnight.

We sat on sumptuous sofas placed in the usual Arab manner against the walls of the room, and we drank tea. Arafat tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade me to share his penchant for submerging honey in the tea. He spoke mainly in English, but would sometimes switch to Arabic and get one of his seven colleagues to interpret. I was accompanied by fellow Labour MP Ernie Ross and the British ambassador.

Arafat's mood was volatile. He was sometimes deeply serious, sometimes highly jovial, with lots of laughter, from time to time given to starting a sentence with the words "Let me tell you a story" and was, once or twice, explosively angry.

His largest detonation came right at the outset when I mentioned the tendency of Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Prime Minister, to cite the continued currency of the PLO's charter as evidence for his contention that, despite Arafat's recent assurances, the Palestinians still wished to destroy the Israeli state.

"Shamir is my enemy," he fumed, and insisted that he would discuss the status of the charter only at an international peace conference. Significantly, however, he added: "This charter is not during my period. The PLO had not elected me (as chairman) according to this charter."

I questioned Arafat closely on his attitude to violence. He replied: "Everywhere we are against attacks on civilian targets." He did not rule out Fatah action against "anything related to the Israeli army and armed settlers who work with the army" but, when I asked him whether there was truth in the reports that, after the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers last November, he had halted military action against the Israelis, he replied: "I didn't till now give orders to stop" but "I gave orders to cool it down."

On the uprising in the Israeli-occupied terrorities he asserted: "From the beginning I gave strict orders not to use weapons in the *intifada*." However, although he said, "I am controlling till now our people," he went on — referring to Israeli repression of the *intifada* — "How long will they continue obeying me when these crimes continue? I am afraid some of our extremists will use weapons. It will be a disaster for us." He was particularly worried about the possibility of Syrian or Libyan involvement.



During my earlier visit to Israel I had been asked by Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, whether Arafat not only recognized Israel's existence but, much more important, Israeli's right to exist. Arafat responded by referring to the text of United Nations Security Council reolution 242, which he had endorsed at Geneva. "We respect the right of all states to live" — he used "exist" as a variation — "in peace and security." To exclude misunderstanding or misinterpretation, he made this reply in Arabic.

As for negotiations, he firmly rejected any kind of negotiations other than an international conference based on UN resolutions 242 and 338. The Palestinian chapter of the Israeli-Egyptian Camp David agreement, to which in any case he was not a party, had been declared "dead" by President Mubarak. He ruled out negotiations locally in the occupied territories with the Israelis, on issues more limited than the scope of an international conference, even involving local representatives accredited by him.

The 14 points drawn up by West Bank Palestinians, which among others called on the Israelis to soften their attitude on deportations and arrests, did not require negotiations but could be implemented unilaterally by Israel as a sign of good will. While he was very willing to authorize talks with individual Israelis — named or categorized — in the Labour Party, the farther-left Mapam party and other peace groups, there would be no negotiations with the Israeli government itself except at an international conference.

Moreover, that conference should involve all five permanent members of the Security Council and not, as had recently been suggested by Shamir and others, only the two superpowers. Europe, whose role he regarded as important, would otherwise be excluded.

When I asked Arafat how the Palestinians should be represented, he replied that the idea of a "joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation has ended" with the withdrawal of the Jordanians from the West Bank and the PLO's declaration of a Palestinian state. However, he added to my surprise, "maybe we can accept a joint Arab delegation of all Arab nations, which would divide off into regional committees meeting concurrently." The idea of a joint Arab delegation was put forward to me last summer in Damascus when I met Vice-President Khaddam of Syria, a country not exactly the PLO's flavour of the month.

PLO policy, Arafat told me, was for the Palestinian state to be a multi-party democracy, with an elected parliament, which would form a confederation with Jordan. I reminded Arafat of his demand that such a state should consist of the West Bank and Gaza Strip linked by a corridor and should have East Jerusalem as its capital and possess its own army as long as Israel retained its armed forces.

I asked him whether that was his last word or if he was ready for compromise. He replied that he wished to enter into negotiations and that "negotiations mean compromise."

He went on, as I pressed him, "At the end you will find a compromise. We are looking to arrive at a conclusion. So that means compromise. We will enter with objectives, but ready to accept compromises."

Arafat told me that while he believed Britain has a key role to play, and he would be glad to meet Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, "I am very surprised by the position taken by the government of Mrs Thatcher, particularly with the European Community. I am astonished that she is refusing, refusing, refusing, refusing." That reaction seemed to dispose of Sir Geoffrey's recent claim that Britain was the key that had unlocked the door to the United States' decision to open a dialogue with the PLO.

On the other hand, he was highly appreciative of the role of the Labour Party. "Please convey to your party and its leadership our best gratitude and regards for what has been achieved." He referred especially both to Labour's 1988 conference and to a recent United Nations conference in Geneva that I had addressed.

Arafat, who displayed a detailed knowledge of internal Israeli politics, expressed warmth for Jews and Israelis. "They are our cousins," he declared. "We know them." Almost in the same words that I had used in other discussions in Israel and Tunis, he said: "The Israelis are escaping from the ghettoes, but they are establishing their own ghetto in Israel." He went on: "They are spoiling Judaism. I have a share in this Judaism. It is part of my heritage."

Arafat believed that peace would be a boon both to Israelis and Palestinians. "There is a long list of what they want from us and what we need from them. There are many problems we can solve together."

© Times Newspapers, 1989

The author is Labour spokesman on foreign affairs.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

Where is the iron fist?

So the Prime Minister has sold out after all. She has been tamed, made respectable. The Iron Lady has joined the *Guardian*-reading, wimpish "let's be kind to our enemies" fraternity.

How else can we explain her extraordinary and uncharacteristic confession to David Frost that she does not believe in retaliating against terrorists and in exacting retribution for evil? That was not a strong, determined, no-nonsense prime minister in tune with majority opinion. They were the words of a wishy-washy wet.

Suddenly Mrs Thatcher is articulating the sentiments of the timid and cautious establishment she has always professed to despise rather than those of the direct and robust few, which has been her hallmark and the secret of her success. She is saying what others want her to say, not what she believes.

It would not have been much good if she had adopted that position when the Falklands were invaded. We didn't hear her suggest then that we should offer the other cheek. She would never have been heard simpering about not believing that "an eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth is ever valid." She enjoined us to "Rejoice! Rejoice!" in victory. There was no suggestion of appeasement then.

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The Rt Rev James Whyte, has seized on her lead. We must not, he said, call for retaliation for the terrible horror at Lockerbie. "As far as I know," he said, "no respectable politician has used that word, and I hope none ever will, except to disown it. For that way lies the endless cycle of violence upon violence, horror upon horror. That is what retaliation means. I, for one, will have none of it."

That is nonsense, and dangerous nonsense. And the Prime Minister should never have allowed herself to be trapped into encouraging it. She probably deeply regrets what she started. Such sentiments, foolish though excusable in a churchman, are inappropriate for a prime minister.

In principle there is nothing wrong with retaliating against evil. It is not ignoble to hit back. Indeed, as St Thomas Aquinas pointed out, revenge can be virtuous. Few people, Professor Whyte being an exception, would suggest that it is never acceptable to strike back at those who injure us. The Prime Minister believed that it was justifiable to punish Libya by bombing Tripoli and Benghazi in April 1986. She was right.

In any case, morals aside, it is preposterous to argue that international terrorists should be allowed to get off scot-free for premeditated mass murder. What a message that is to send to all the training camps in the Middle East. Even the Moderator, presumably, is prepared to consider punishment. If he is, then all that remains is to determine what it shall be and who shall carry it out. That it might, by some, be called revenge is irrelevant.

Mrs Thatcher does, at least, insist that the terrorists be punished. Then she cops out. She says they must be "brought to justice." No one would disagree with that, were it known to be practicable. But it is not. The problem, as she admits, is that it is extremely difficult to bring terrorists to book because of the "safe havens" provided for them by such countries as Libya, Iran and Syria.

So all right, the "safe havens" must be made very unsafe. And why not? At one time Mrs Thatcher would have been the first to say so. If some countries are prepared to sponsor and support terrorists as well as provide a safe haven for them, then they must be prepared to accept the consequences.

They can have no complaint when their sovereignty is threatened or their assets destroyed. Indeed, as the greatest English political philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, said, vengeance is lawfully extended to those who renounce the authority of the state and of international law. There is no reason why they should be accorded the same privileges and rights that apply to the law-abiding.

Above all, terrorists should not be allowed to rest safe in the knowledge that they will never be attacked. That would invite further acts of barbarity. To do as the Moderator asks, and Mrs Thatcher suggests, would be tantamount to an invitation to fanatics everywhere to do their worst. None of them is impressed by meekness and humility, which is simply regarded as contemptible weakness.

Machiavelli knew this. "Is it better," he asked, "to be loved more than feared, or feared more than loved?" His reply was that "it is much safer to be feared than loved, if one of the two has to be wanting. Men have less scruples in offending one who makes himself loved than one who makes himself feared . . . but fear is maintained by a dread of punishment which never fails."

It is the "dread of punishment" that deters the criminal, just as it deterred Gadaffi and brought the PLO to the negotiating table. Neither repented as a result of fine-sounding sermons. Would that they had.

And there is no reason why the innocent should have to suffer, as the Prime Minister said they must, when revenge is taken. That is not necessary. All that is required is that the targets for punishment are carefully selected and then hit.

Naturally there will be criticism of such action. But we did not elect the Prime Minister to be loved. She was elected to be effective. Others can play the role of being the good guy. That has not been Mrs Thatcher's style. It is, paradoxically, one reason for her success, so far. She needs to be reminded that, as the man said, "Good guys come last." The terrorists need no reminding.

JAN 13 **ON THIS DAY** 1873

In July 1872, after a struggle of more than 50 years, Italy was united under the crown of Victor Emmanuel; at the same time the papacy (then headed by Pius IX) lost its temporal powers.

ITALY AND THE POPE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

ROME, JAN. 6.

We have had a series of small *tempests in Rome of late*, and some persons will have it that these are only the precursors of more serious storms both here and elsewhere. Misfortune has impaired the temper of the Vatican and increased its susceptibility. We have proofs of this in the recent fiery Allocutions, which have caused considerable sensation here, in conjunction with the consequent brush with Germany, and with other incidents of minor importance tending to call attention to the attitude of the Papal Court. There seems a singular inconsistency between the friendly letter the Pontiff recently addressed to the King and the allusions to Sisera and Holofernes in one of his late speeches; but there are persons who think these seeming contradictions neither surprising nor unprecedented. You will have heard that on one of the last days of December the Pope gave audience to a great number of the Roman aristocracy, who went to offer him their good wishes for the new year, and that in his reply to the address read by Marquis Cavaletti he spoke of the aristocratic descent of Christ, declared the clergy and the aristocracy to be the only real props of Thrones, and called upon Heaven to deliver him out of the hands of the man of iniquity. But within a few hours after this audience there was much talk of a ball, to be given on New Year's Day by the Prince and Princess of Roccagorga, and at which it was intended to bring together that large section of the Roman aristocracy which adheres to the Pope as their temporal Sovereign and the much smaller one more or less well affected to the Quirinal. Prince Roccagorga is an Orsini, which claims to be one of the oldest Roman families — perhaps the oldest, excepting the Santa Croce, which traces its descent in a clear line from Publicola. It was understood that the ball would be select; there were no Government functionaries, and all the blood was to be blue. Up to the morning of the fête its full success was confidently anticipated, but, when night came, the *papalini* did not appear. It is said that their absence was due to some words addressed by Pius XI to a lady of the Orsini family who chanced to have an audience of him that very day. Prince Roccagorga holds high office at the Papal Court. Its exact duties are unknown to me, but he is about the throne, and the Pope is reported to have said, when expressing to the lady in question his disapproval of the projected gathering, "*Eppure è principe assistente al soglio.*" This being the case, it would have been in better taste if Prince Roccagorga had either resigned his post or abstained from the semi-Royalist manifestations. His tendencies are said to be Liberal, and he is probably one of many who at the present Pope's death will openly adhere to the newly-established Government . . .

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

EPIDEMIC OF CONFUSION

An epidemic, according to *The Concise Oxford Dictionary*, means "prevalent among a community at a special time". The special time, according to the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Sir Donald Acheson, who addressed the Commons Agriculture Select Committee on Wednesday, is now; the community is the egg-consuming population of the United Kingdom. There is indeed a salmonella epidemic.

Experts in semantics may argue about how far "prevalence" in Sir Donald's usage differs from "most" as uttered by Mrs Edwina Currie in her celebrated but politically fatal phrase about eggs and salmonella a month ago. The rest of us can probably confess only confusion.

The facts – which is to say information that is more or less undisputed – are these. The number of confirmed cases of public poisoning caused by general strains of salmonella doubled between 1981 and 1987. Over the same period cases caused by the specific strain of *Salmonella enteriditis* have increased 13 times. Enough cases have been reported to public health authorities during the past year for Sir Donald to apply the word epidemic.

More controversial is how these facts should be interpreted. Calculated as a proportion of the total number of eggs consumed, the poisonous eggs appear to be a tiny fraction. The number of infected flocks of hens is a similarly small proportion of all poultry production. Poisonous eggs, we are constantly reminded, are likely to kill only the new-born, the sick and the old. But this is a truism about all bacterial infections. The likelihood of a healthy individual contracting an infection from a single egg taken off the supermarket shelf is small.

Yet the probability of infection probably matters less than the now widespread belief, which has only been strengthened by the political toing and froing in Whitehall and Westminster, that something is wrong in the food chain. Moreover, there has been no clear statement about how the situation is to be remedied. Now, we have been told of a new risk, in the *Salmonella enteriditis* strain.

The astonishing thing about events since early December is that at no stage has a minister of the Crown stood up and said precisely what the Government is proposing to do. Nor, it appears, have our usually vocal MPs demanded it. Yet this is what is needed as a matter of urgency. Mr Kenneth Clarke or Mr John MacGregor – no one is especially exercised whether it is Health or Agriculture that speaks – should go to the dispatch box as soon as possible and say: action is now being taken to eradicate the causes of this epidemic.

That may mean tightening the protein processing order of 1981 or chivvying local authorities into making more inspections. It may mean the State taking new powers to stop the sale of contaminated feedstuffs and produce or more thorough inspection during the handling process, between farm and retailer. It may even mean putting the issue into European hands in Brussels. It ought to involve the diversion of some of £19 million subsidy for egg producers into overtime pay for public health inspectors.

Having expressed his opinion that there is an epidemic, the Chief Medical Officer must either be repudiated (with disturbing consequences for public confidence in his other pronouncements, on Aids for example), or ministers must take some action. Mrs Currie's vindication is neither here nor there. Tested by a new public health issue, the machinery of official advice has been found wanting. The quality of ministerial performance has been less than impressive. Both officials and politicians need to recover lost ground, and we need to be reassured about the soundness of British eggs.

RETREAT FROM HONG KONG

Sir David Wilson, the Governor of Hong Kong, has described the British Government's policy towards the Crown Colony as one of "smooth convergence" between Britain and China. The principle is that everything should be done to ensure a smooth transfer of sovereignty to China in 1997. In practice, however, the interests of Hong Kong's nearly six million people seem increasingly to be regarded as secondary to the business of transferring territory.

One instance is Britain's treatment of Hong Kong's civil servants. If Chinese rule should prove oppressive after 1997, Britain's doors will be closed to most of Hong Kong's 3.5 million British nationals. Their passports do not give them the right to reside in the United Kingdom. But in recognition of their special vulnerability, ministers have discretion to issue passports to members of Hong Kong's administrative and security services. Yet of the modest 700 who have applied, all but 54 have been refused.

If Britain is confident – as Sir Geoffrey Howe has claimed in *The Times* – that Hong Kong's people will "wish to build their future in their own territory", there is no need for it to be so niggardly in granting them the right of residence. Britain's policy contrasts unhappily with Portugal's decision to give full passports to its 100,000 nationals in Macao. The discrepancy was dismissed this week by Lord Glenarthur with the insensitive words: "there are many things in life that are unfair". A minister of the Government which sets the rules needs to present a better argument.

The size of Hong Kong's population is, of course, much greater. But that is no reason for not granting British passports at least to those with special claims. This would be just, and would confer needed credibility on ministers' assertions that they are not walking away from Hong Kong.

More than symbolic measures are needed to reassure those, the vast majority, who will stay in Hong Kong. Many fled China, at great personal risk. Under the 1984 Sino-British Agreement, China undertook that the provisions of the 1966 UN Conventions on Human Rights would "remain in force" in Hong Kong. It also promised to respect Hong Kong's social and legal systems for 50 years after 1997.

The value of the 1984 Agreement is critically dependent on the quality of its implementation. Much hangs on the type of political system in place in 1997. Here, Britain has appeared to retreat, or at least to say nothing as China retreats, from its commitments. In July 1984, the Hong Kong Government promised, in writing, a speedy transition to representative democracy.

A year later, China raised objections to the introduction of democracy. From the Foreign Office, Sir David counselled caution. Installed as Governor in 1987, Sir David cancelled plans to hold a referendum in 1988 on Hong Kong's form of government and postponed elections until 1991. These delays were significant: in 1990 the "Basic Law", setting out Hong Kong's system of government after 1997, will be promulgated.

The drafting committee, which has been appointed by Peking, now proposes to drop all thoughts of democratic rule until 15 years after the Chinese take-over. The only consolation offered is that the referendum originally promised for 1988 will take place – in 2011 or, just possibly, four years earlier. Referendums, according to a senior Chinese negotiator, require much "preparatory work". China is also retreating from its commitment to allow political parties: these it now says might cause "complications".

Alarm bells should at last be ringing in Whitehall. Instead, the Government is avoiding awkward questions by saying that decisions on democracy are a matter for the Basic Law drafting committee.

It is high time that the policy of "convergence" was subjected to scrutiny. The Hong Kong Government has promised public consultation before the Basic Law is finalized. Sir David, a principal negotiator of the Agreement, has a personal responsibility to see that its spirit is honoured. The Hong Kong Government, whose writ still runs, should let its people have their democratic say not in the 21st century, but now.

FIVE AND UNDER

The education establishment this week welcomed the select committee report calling for nursery education to be available free of charge to all parents who wanted it. Its members were quick to point out that this was no more than the then Conservative Education Secretary had advocated in 1972. Yes, it was Mrs Thatcher.

But, they said, she and her Government had done little since. Mrs Thatcher's original targets – to give places to 50 per cent of three-year-olds and 90 per cent of four-year-olds by 1982 – were not met, largely because of the oil crisis and its effect on public spending. To say there has been no progress at all, however, is wrong.

In the 10 years to 1985, free nursery places almost doubled from 138,000 to 267,000; 44 per cent of three and four-year-olds are now receiving some nursery education. Nearly half are in playgroups, which are rather disapproved of by the closed-shop minds of the teachers' unions. The remaining 23 per cent are in primary schools and nursery classes.

The Labour Party also crowed that the top 24 councils in provision of nursery places were all Labour-controlled. Conservative authorities were the worst performers.

This may, however, reflect a lesser demand for council-run nursery care in those areas. Demand is likely to be highest in deprived areas where families, often single parents, cannot afford the fees of private nursery schools or even playgroups. Labour authorities would be failing in their duty if they did not try to meet that demand.

But does it automatically follow that the same services should be provided for high-earning parents who can afford to provide nursery care for their children? Providing state places is expensive. In 1985 the cost ranged from £665 a year in a nursery class to £980 in a nursery school. To provide places for all would cost at least £300 million. The MPs say the extra places are needed to meet the growing demand caused by the increase in family breakdowns and the rising number of working mothers.

The number of women in paid employment is likely to rise further as the number of school leavers starts to fall in the 1990s. Companies will be competing for a trained workforce, many of whom will be women wishing to return to work but still with young children. The employers will reap the benefits. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to ask them to help with nursery care, either by offering workplace nurseries, or by assisting employers in paying for child care.

The Government would have a part to play in reconsidering its decision to tax staff earning more than £8,500 a year for the use of nurseries provided by employers. It might also consider offering tax incentives to companies which subsidize child care for their staff.

Encouragement should be given to as many providers of child care as possible, and the various strands of nursery provision should be co-ordinated. Local authorities can provide some nursery schools and classes in primary schools, companies can look after the needs of their workforce, while playgroups continue to support the many parents who choose them in preference to more formal schooling.

A variety of provision is required which reflects the variety of needs. No one particular way is the right way for all and there is no need to provide free places for everybody. The same money could be put to better use.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A dismal view of Mammon's rule

From Mr Claud Morris

Sir, The battle for GEC, the take-over gluttony, the persistent lauding of maximised profit as the only standard in modern Britain, the sacrifice of future potential to the need to fulfil the immediate financial forecasts of pundits or speculators: these are all aspects of the same phenomena in Britain today.

There is a mounting materialism that wants more and more. Otherwise stable companies are relentless as hawks in pursuing prey; more profit, no matter what corners are cut or what national standards are debased, no matter what social or national interests are abandoned or public interest put aside, for one reason or another; no matter about the bitter business breaks between one-time commercial friends or colleagues.

There are a few words in Ronald Knox's translation of Ecclesiastes which appear appropriate:

I thought, too, of human toil and striving; how much it owed to man's rivalry with his fellows . . . better a handful quietly come by than a whole armful that is all striving and love's labours lost

Yours sincerely,
CLAUD MORRIS,
15a Lowndes Street, SW1.
January 11.

Role of small unions

From the General Secretary of the Engineers' and Managers' Association

Sir, In his report on trade union amalgamations (December 29) your correspondent referred to the view held by Mr John Edmonds, of the GMB general union, that the only way in future that unions will be able to provide quality services and high-grade representation is by amalgamating into a small number of mega-unions.

I cannot agree. My own association, 41,000-strong, offers a full range of professional services to our members, a high ratio of officers to members and a far better service overall than is provided by any of the large unions in existence today.

The reason is partly financial, partly due to the way we organise ourselves, and partly due to the fact that people at professional levels tend to make higher demands on their organisations. In addition, not being politically affiliated, our officers' work is not distracted by the political activities which political affiliation necessarily demands.

I agree that there is logic in certain amalgamations and there are circumstances in which amalagamations are inevitable. But the logic is by no means necessarily universal.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LYONS,
General Secretary,
Engineers' and Managers' Association,
Station House, Fox Lane North,
Chertsey, Surrey.
January 9.

Police complaints

From the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers

Sir, In continuing attempts to secure a high public profile for the Police Complaints Authority, Sir Cecil Clothier, in his article "Drawing the thin blue line" (January 3), is in danger of misleading those unfamiliar with the powers of the Police Complaints Authority.

To suggest that in the small number of cases where chief officers disagree with the PCA's decisions to prefer charges, they then pursue the case with "less energy than it (the PCA) would wish" infers that the case fails through lack of prosecution.

In my experience these cases are usually presented by an independent barrister or solicitor to a tribunal composed of one chief officer and two members of the PCA, and a majority verdict applies. If Sir Cecil is unhappy with the outcome and he is seeking a scapegoat, the fault, I would suggest, lies more with the lack of evidence than its presentation. The standard of proof required to convict in a discipline case is the same as that at a criminal trial.

The PCA will always be safe criticising the police, but in so doing there is a requirement for clarity in its public comment which is not always apparent to the police.

Yours faithfully,
G. P. WRIGHT (President, Association of Chief Police Officers),
South Yorkshire Police Headquarters,
Snig Hill,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
January 6.

Farm subsidies

From Mr Lawrence Linehan

Sir, Mr Aidan Harrison (December 29) asks free traders what might be done to obtain fair food prices with decent returns to the farming community in a system of sustainable, healthy, humane farming. The answer lies in the land itself, in its ever-rising cost – a subject aired by your Agricultural Correspondent, John Young, on December 30.

The trouble is that where subsidies are available landowners add such "benefits" to the price of land, pocket the cash and leave the farmer to recoup what he can. The tenant farmer may actually receive the benefit, but only until his lease expires, when the landowner will expect to capitalize the value added to the farm business by any grant or subsidy.

Prospective buyers or tenants may now find the cost of farmland virtually prohibitive; but there are still the wealthy few, of course – though usually more interested in the joys of land speculation than the joys of farming.

Curiously, the best way to release farmers from their bonds would be to levy an annual tax on the unimproved market value of farmland – and all other land. This would remove from landowners' pockets the unearned increment contained in land appreciations and would depress land prices, to the benefit of all.

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE LINEHAN,
Locks Lane House,
Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (01)782 5046.

Lessons from the M1 air disaster

From Professor Emeritus J. K. Mason

Sir, Mr Castle's article (January 10) on the advantages of backward-facing seats in aircraft referred in the main to the 30-year-old accident at Munich and to experiences in and shortly after the Second World War; but times have changed.

Propeller-driven aircraft had relatively low crash-landing speeds and sustained forces that were mainly in the horizontal plane. The seat mountings therefore had a very fair chance of holding, in which case a properly-designed rearward-facing seat had the very obvious advantages which Mr Castle details and which your leader (January 12) stresses.

However, once the seats become detached, their orientation makes little difference. This was particularly evident at Stockport some 20 years ago, when the great majority of deaths were asphyxial in type and were related to trapping of the passengers as the seats concertinaed; there would have been just the same result had they been rearward-facing.

The modern aircraft differs not only in its speed of impact – and, hence, in the likelihood of seat-mounting failure – but also in that many existing types are subject to particularly severe vertical crash forces against which seat orientation is, again, no defence.

The truly dangerous "whiplash" injury is an extension fracture of the neck. I would want to know that I had a really effective head rest before I felt happy in a rearward-facing seat; and the adoption of a head-on-knees position does a great deal to eliminate the dynamic overload on the head which is inherent in the use of a lap belt. In fact the head is relatively well protected as the seatback in front collapses.

In this context, you raise the possibility of supplying upper-torso restraint for forward-facing passengers. Where would such harnesses be attached? The roof is clearly impracticable and the only alternative is the seatback itself; the back must, then, be rigid and the whole strain is placed on the seat mounting.

The rearward-facing seat is less stable than is its counterpart. It might well be of value, as you point out, in the landing accident. But it is important to note your further proviso that the position of the passenger is immaterial in most air disasters; seat-orientation should not come to be regarded as a panacea for the prevention of injuries sustained in the very varying conditions of these accidents.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
J. K. MASON,
University of Edinburgh,
Faculty of Law, Old College,
South Bridge, Edinburgh 8.
January 12.

From Mr Jeremy Maurice

Sir, It is suggested that passengers have a dislike of rearward-facing seats in aircraft. On what basis does this suggestion rest?

No one seems to have considered the seating in rail travel. From the very beginning, half the seats have faced towards the rear and there is no evidence that these seats are disliked. In a train, moreover, there is a sensation of speed and a view to be appreciated.

Furthermore, in recent years, BR have introduced airline-type seats in serried ranks, facing in opposite directions on each side of the carriage. Again, there does not seem to be any evidence that one side fills up before the other.

I would suggest that any preference that may be expressed by airline passengers is based purely on what they are accustomed to, without any thought to or understanding of the safety issues.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MAURICE,
2 Crown Office Row,
Temple, EC4.

From Mr J. B. Thorne

Sir, I live eight miles south of East Midlands Airport and regularly use the M1 adjacent to it. On many occasions I have been on this piece of road when planes have been coming in to land. They fly in very low and appear without warning over the cutting.

If they are in sight, just in front of you, the effect is disconcerting enough, in spite of the warning sign; but if they are just above or behind your vehicle, in a blind spot, the sudden noise is even more alarming. The distraction and consequent lack of concentration, if only momentary, could cause a serious accident on this extremely busy motorway.

Were the main road bridged over at East Midlands Airport, as indeed it is at Gatwick, this problem would be avoided, and I cannot help thinking that last Sunday's appalling accident might have been much less serious; the impact would have been on a level surface rather than an embankment, the plane might have been less likely to break up and lives might have been saved.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN THORNE (Chairman),
J. B. Thorne and Son Ltd.,
Unit 1, Church Hill Road,
Thurmaston, Leicester.

Nuclear deterrent

From Professor J. Rotblat

Sir, We should perhaps be used by now to inaccurate or exaggerated statements by ministers of state, but even so some utterances by Mr William Waldegrave, in his article today (January 6), appear extravagant as well as being inconsistent. Having declared as nonsensical the concept of "historical inevitability" he goes on to say:

Nuclear deterrence *has* certainly prevented world war – that world war which would otherwise have inevitably broken out sometime, somewhere, after 1945 between America and her allies and Russia and hers.

What is Mr Waldegrave's evidence that a world war would have been inevitable? That the nuclear deterrent was *the* reason for there being no war in Europe since 1945 is a plausible supposition, accepted by many people and rejected by many others.

Each side is entitled to its opinion, as is Mr Waldegrave, but presenting it in such a categorical form as a fact – note his emphasis on "has" – can only serve to diminish the credibility of ministerial statements.

Yours faithfully,
J. ROTBLAT,
8 Asmara Road, NW2.
January 6.

'New history'

From the President of the Historical Association

Sir, Members of the Historical Association agree with the virtues of a good historical education identified by Stewart Deuchar in the address he gave to one seminar out of some 30 at our annual education conference, reported in your columns on January 3.

We believe that current issues in the teaching of history should be vigorously debated and were happy to allow Mr Deuchar an opportunity to express his views. However, it should not be thought that the association as such subscribes to Mr Deuchar's opinion that history lessons at British schools are "a wild and woolly world of uncheckable and unquantifiable *ad hoc* judgements" far removed from the pursuit of truth.

The detailed assessments of the current position presented by other speakers still leave room for disagreement about the best way forward; but at this conference it has emerged that the antithesis between so-called "new history" and good teaching is false.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH ROBBINS, President,
The Historical Association,
59a Kennington Park Road, SE11.

Romania's past

From Mr Mark Almond

Sir, Since Charles Knevitt ("Bulldozing Romania's past", Spectrum, January 4) cites me, may I take issue with a couple of points in his article.

He quotes uncritically the incredible assertion of Mr John Winter, a British architect, that the "post-modern classical blocks" – in reality shoddy breeze-block prefabs lacking the most basic facilities – of the new Bucharest "are understandably popular with Romanians". This hardly requires refutation. Common sense as well as common decency revolts against it.

If "the ordinary Romanian citizen has shown no signs of dissent", does Mr Knevitt mean that the population is content with its lot? Because of its brutal response to criticism, few Romanians speak out against the regime, which has degraded their country into a building site on rations.

Western pressure may persuade President Ceausescu to halt the demolition of the villages, but it will not help the critics who have "disappeared" in Romania if he is left to continue their persecution in revenge.

Yours truly,
MARK ALMOND,
Wolfson College, Oxford.

Eye for an eye

From Lord Glendevon

Sir, Surely it is the tone of the Soviet attack on the United States that is the most worrying part of the Libyan affair. For the Russians to describe the action of the American planes as "state terrorism" (report, January 6) is so absurd as to be laughable in a less serious context.

This is not the language of a recently forged friendship; it is sheer anti-American propaganda in the old style. What is its purpose? Can it be to renew the old mischief-making between Europe and the US? One cannot help wondering whether Gorbachov himself knew what his foreign ministry was going to say.

Yours faithfully,
GLENDEVON,
House of Lords.
January 6.

RSPCA example for charity law

From Lord Houghton of Sowerby, CH

Sir, I earnestly hope that Mr George Hill's sound conclusions on the latest source of discord within the RSPCA (Spectrum, January 3) will be taken to heart by all concerned.

This is not, however, any longer a quarrel between the "gadflies" and the establishment. What is now at issue are the rights of properly-admitted subscribing members and charitable societies who themselves enjoy legal status and special protection and fiscal privileges under the law.

In recent years a steady process of revision has replaced the outdated and arbitary powers governing councils of learned and corporate bodies, trade unions, and the like to expel members by procedures lacking rights to independent judgement and right of appeal. It is now the turn of the charities.

In the particular case of the RSPCA, three former vice presidents (of whom I am one) interceded with the council to steady their hand in the use of manifestly unsatisfactory rules providing no right of appeal to expelled members, not even to the AGM. Having failed, we have protested at what has happened and intend to carry the matter further.

There is now a review of charity law going on, and I hope the way the charities are run, as well as the way they appeal for public support and account for the spending of it, will be closely examined. As it is now Government policy to expand the role of voluntary services, more and larger charities will enter our lives. The way they conduct their affairs will therefore become of greater public concern.

Yours faithfully,
HOUGHTON of SOWERBY,
House of Lords.

Dissident stand

From Mrs Margaret House

Sir, As one of the five so-called "dissidents" expelled from the RSPCA for publishing *RSPCA Members' Watchdog*, may I comment on George Hill's "Should you kill a healthy cat?" (January 3). Our reason for producing the newsletter was to support the victims of a "reign of terror" by the majority on the RSPCA council.

I appreciate that it may be difficult for your readers to imagine or understand the persecution and humiliation that many members have suffered as a result of doing voluntary work for the RSPCA. Many are too frightened to speak out for fear of reprisals. The obstruction of our views by the RSPCA council should not be tolerated – that is why we are trying to get a full inquiry into the management of the RSPCA.

The comments about finance in the article are based on the millions of pounds held in reserve by the national society. No mention was made of the millions of pounds held in the branches, undeclared in the RSPCA's annual accounts. Most of the healthy animals are killed in the branches.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET HOUSE (Secretary, *RSPCA Members' Watchdog*),
44 Kingsley Road, Horley, Surrey.
January 5.

Off the hook

From Mrs J. M. Hick

Sir, As the organist for the parish of Upper Stour I have a vivid memory of a dark winter night, after evensong, when the senior churchwarden of St Peter's, Stourton (at Stourhead) was successful in retrieving the deputy churchwarden's car keys from the heating pipes under the grating in the nave floor; but only because of *two* wire coathangers providentially found in the vestry. *One* would have been too short.

Yours faithfully,
JANET HICK,
3 Brookside Terrace, Kilmington,
Nr Warminster, Wiltshire.

From Mrs Debra Sheldon

Sir, Growing up in California one soon learns that an unbent coathanger is used as a long skewer for roasting hot dogs (skewered lengthwise) and marshmallows over an open campfire. The length of the wire allows one to be far enough away from the fire to avoid burnt fingers.

Yours sincerely,
DEBRA SHELDON,
75 Teignmouth Road,
Torquay, Devon.

From Mrs Elizabeth F. Gordon

Sir, A pair of coathangers wired together at the hooks make excellent angel wings for nativity plays when suitably covered. Ordinary sizes do the heavenly host: extra large for men's suits do best for Angel Gabriel.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH F. GORDON,
Hydestile House,
Wood Lane, Parkgate,
South Wirral, Merseyside.

From Miss M M. Pearson

Sir, When I worked in Victoria three years ago I picked up some dry cleaning (still on its wire coathanger) on my way to the Underground. There, in the squashing crowd, the hook slipped itself into the coat belt of a mac worn by a large hurrying man. He rushed me into the wrong train; it was not until we reached Pimlico that he realised I was attached to him. My destination was Green Park. He was 6 ft., 15 stone plus. I am 5 ft., 6 stone minus.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET M. PEARSON,
310 Elm Tree Court,
Elm Tree Road, NW8.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 12: Lieutenant-Colonel *Blair Stewart-Wilson* had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 12: The Duchess of York, as Patron of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, this morning visited the Academic Unit of Neuroscience, Charing Cross and Westminster Medical Schools, St Dunstan's Road, London W6.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Dean (Professor D. W. Glenister).

In the afternoon The Duchess of York visited St George's Hospital Medical School, Cranmer Terrace, London SW17.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Vice-Dean (Professor P. Freeling).

The Duchess of York, as *Patron of Museums Year 1989*, visited John Swain and Son Limited, Clerkenwell, London EC1 (Printers of *The Times Guide for Museums Year*).

Mrs John Spooner and Captain William McLean were in attendance.

The Princess Royal, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, this morning visited the Zoological Society of London to receive two ponies on behalf of the Riding for the Disabled Association and was received on arrival by the President of The Zoological Society (Sir William Henderson).

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended the Institute of Freight Forwarders' Annual Luncheon at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, London and was received by the President (Sir Edward du Cann).

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, this afternoon attended a Reception at Earl's Court Boat Show in honour of the 1988 British Olympic Sailing Team and was received on arrival by the Chairman (Mr Francis Elkin).

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 12: The Prince of Wales opened an exhibition of Italian Art in the 20th Century at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1.

Sir John Riddell, Bt, was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales received Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei, at St James's Palace, SW1.

The Princess of Wales, President, Barnardo's, visited the charity's Families Together project at 76 Wentworth Street, E1.

Miss Alexandra Loyd, Lieutenant-Commander Patrick Jephson, RN, and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as Patron, this evening attended a performance of *The Nutcracker* given by the London Festival Ballet at the Royal Festival Hall.

Her Royal Highness later attended a Ball held at the Jacob Street Studios in aid of the Company's Development Trust.

The Lady Glenconner was in attendance.

School announcements

The Church Schools Company
The seven girls' independent day schools of the Church Schools Company have reopened for the Easter term. Surbiton High School has completed its extensive new buildings for art, science and technology; the Atherley School Southampton will shortly bring into use new classrooms and enhanced Sixth Form facilities. At Caterham, Eothen School's ambitious new science block is approaching completion. Hull High School is making plans for its centenary celebrations in 1990 and former pupils who would like details are invited to contact the Headmistress.

Guildford High School is planning new buildings for CDT with generous assistance from a charitable foundation. Miss Madeline McLauchlan, former Headmistress of North London Collegiate School, has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Company.

Hurstpierpoint College
Academic Awards
As a result of continuous assessment the following internal academic awards were made with effect from the beginning of the Lent Term 1989:
Dingwall Scholarship: A. Taylor (Calday Grange Grammar School and Haywards Heath Sixth Form College); Exhibitions: M.C. Read (Warden Park); B.J. Morris (Cranleigh Preparatory School); N.R. Putnam; G.J. Denny; T.J. Watts; S.H. McGhie (Hurstpierpoint Junior School).

Government Assisted Places are now available; closing date for September entry is January 27, 1989.

St David's College, Llandudno
Spring Term at St David's College started on January 16. Mr Culain Morris has taken up his appointment as headmaster on the retirement of Mr John Mayor. The Scholarship examination takes place on February 1. Half term is from February 10-14 and term ends March 17.

St John's School, Leatherhead
Term started on Monday, January 10. Bryan Tatman is Captain of the School. The Bruinvels Trophies Race will be Saturday, March 4, the Music Scholarship takes place on Monday, February 27, and the Montgomery House Play will be on March 16 and 17. Confirmation by the Rt Rev David Wilcox, Bishop of Dorking will be on Saturday, February 25, and the School Concert is on Sunday, March 19. Term ends on Wednesday, March 22.

Wellingborough School
The Lent Term began this week and ends on March 23. The Spring Festival of music and drama is from March 5-22. Confirmation will be on March 11 and the London O.W. Dinner on March 10. *Four Centuries: The History of Wellingborough School* was published last term. Copies are available from the School at £14.00 (incl. p & p).

Wilson's School
Term began on January 5 and ends on March 22. The Old Wilsonians dine at the School on February 10, the One Act Plays are on March 8-10, and the School concert on March 16. The Swimming Pool has been re-roofed and re-opened. The Parents have voted overwhelmingly for Grant Maintained Status and the request is now with the DES.

Dinners

Archbishop of Canterbury
The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Runcie entertained the *Prime Minister and Mr Denis* Thatcher at dinner at Lambeth Palace last night.

Royal College of General Practitioners
A dinner was held by the Royal College of General Practitioners on Wednesday, January 11. The Chairman of Council, Professor Denis Pereira Gray, presided and the principal guest was the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP, Secretary of State for Health. Others present included the President, Dr Stuart Carne and officers of Council.

Pilgrims
The American Ambassador and Mrs Charles H. Price, II, were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Pilgrims at the Savoy Hotel last night. Lord Carrington, CH, president, was in the chair and Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton also spoke. Others present included:
The Right Rev Dr R D Say, Lady Carrington, Lord and Lady McFadzean, Lord Sherfield, Lord Shawcross, QC, Mrs Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Sir Hugh and Lady Cubitt, Sir Patrick and Lady Dean, Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly, Sir Peter Marshall, Sir Hugh and Lady Wontner, Lieutenant-Colonel S W Chant-Sempill and Lady Sempill, Mr and Mrs P James Butler, Mr William Channing, Mr and Mrs Brian Connell and Mrs Monique Huiskamp.

SCIENCE REPORT

Black hole in our galaxy?

A streamer of cool, barely visible gas, reaching into the centre of our galaxy, may be a sign that a giant black hole lurks there, sucking gas, dust and even the occasional star down into it.

This discovery, announced in Boston, Massachusetts, at the annual meeting of the American Astronomical Society by Paul Ho, of Harvard University, offers new clues to what is going on behind the obscuring clouds that conceal the galactic centre from our direct view.

Our galaxy is a flattish disc of stars, with a denser bulge towards the centre. We live about two thirds of the way out, and we see the disc stretching across the sky as the Milky Way. Its densest part lies in the constellation of Sagittarius, but in that region it is hard to make out individual stars; instead, there is an irregular confusion of hot gas and dust, behind which the geometrical centre of the galaxy lies.

From this hot, complex region, astronomers have detected radio waves, infrared and ultraviolet light, and X-rays and gamma rays.

It is easy to guess, in broad terms, what is happening there. As stars, of which there are many in the central regions of the galaxy, age and die, much of their constituent material is expelled into space, either boiled off slowly or blown off with great violence in a supernova explosion.

All this stuff gradually joins in with the general circulation of material around the galactic centre, josties together and falls inwards, heats up and gives off the radiation we observe.

If the present state of activity is typical of what has happened over the past several billion years of the galaxy's life, then enough must have fallen towards the centre that some large dense object must have formed. Most probably this is a black hole, a body whose gravity is too strong even for light to be able to escape from it. It may be a million times as massive as our Sun.

This general picture has been widely accepted for some time, but it is not without problems. Perhaps the outstanding theoretical difficulty is how to supply enough fuel to the black hole. Although there is plenty of gas in the vicinity, it is much more likely to go into orbit around the central black hole than to fall into it.

What Paul Ho and his colleagues from the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics and from West Germany, think they have found is gas in the process of falling towards the galactic centre. Because there is so much hot gas around, special techniques must be used to pick out faint features within it.

He and his colleagues made observations at a particular wavelength of light, characteristic of emission from cool nitrogen gas, which in turn traces the presence of other cool gases. They discovered a faint ribbon of emission starting about 25 light years away from the galactic centre and extending down to only five light years away, where it appears to run into a previously known shell of material surrounding the central black hole. (For comparison, the distance between the Sun and the nearest star is just over four light years).

More significantly, the streamer of gas is next to a cloud which is evidently the remnant of an old supernova explosion, and its distant end is close to a large cloud of cool gas, of a type common throughout the galaxy. Ho speculates that the cool cloud was orbiting around the galactic centre when a supernova went off close by, stripping gas away and sending it on its present path to the centre.

This accords well with the theoretical idea that gas left to itself will not fall into the central black hole, and that some unusual influence is needed to disturb it so that it begins to fall inwards and eventually become the fuel from which the black hole generates the radiation that astronomers detect.

If Ho's preliminary interpretation is right, it suggests that supernovae happen often enough in the galactic centre to supply fuel at a more or less constant rate.

The gas streamer they have observed is so faint that even the best instruments have little chance of probing it closely enough to see if it really is moving in the way Ho expects, but if similar gas flows are found elsewhere around the galactic centre the circumstantial evidence for his picture would be strong.

David Lindley

©Nature-Times News Service 1988.

Memorial service

Sir Gerald Thorley
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Thorley was held yesterday at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield. The Rev Arthur Brown officiated. Sir Christopher Benson, Chairman of MEPC, and Mr Simon Thorley, son, read the lessons. Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, Chairman of Allied-Lyons, gave an address. Among those present were:
Lady Thorley (widow), Mr and Mrs Oliver Vaughan-Jones (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Simon Thorley (daughter-in-law).

Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Lord and Lady Boardman, Lord and Lady Stevens of Ludgate, the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, Sir John Davis, Sir Hugh and Lady Ripley, Air Marshal Sir Denis and Lady Crowley-Milling, Sir Edward and Lady Thompson, Lady (Henry) Johnson, Sir Alex and Lady Alexander, Sir John Grenside, Lady Holden-Brown, Sir David Nicolson, Sir Peter Parker (chairman, Rockware Group) with Mr Frank Davis (chief executive and other members of the group), Sir Stanley Grinstead, Sir Basil and Lady Engholm, Sir Patrick Meaney, Lady Benson, Sir Derek Palmer, Sir Robert Clark (chairman, Hill Samuel Group), Sir Philip Shelbourne (chairman, Henry Ansbacher Holdings).

Mr Richard Martin (chief executive, Allied-Lyons) and Mrs Martin with Mr and Mrs M Jackaman; Mr Sam Whitbread (chairman, Whitbread and Company), Mr J S Fox (Charrington), Mr Edward Guinness (director, Guinness), Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy (chief executive, Woolworth Holdings) with Mr Nigel Whittaker; Mr A D A Forbes (Cazenove and Company), Mr Gerald Dennis (BAT Industries) and Mrs Dennis, Mr P G Hanlon (chairman, Fitch Lovell), Mr John Udal (Economic League), Mr A Fuller (chairman, Brewers' Society) with Major-General W D Naughton; Mr J Cartwright (Friary Meux), Mr Barry Jones (Ind Coope Burton Brewery), Mr Derek Whiting (chairman, International Petroleum Exchange), Mr H L Payne (president, National Federation of Far Eastern Prisoners of War Clubs and Associations).

Commander James Eldon (Naval and Military Club) with Brigadier G F Walker; Mr Michael Cory-Wright (Hertfordshire Yeomanry), Mr Peter G F Tillett (Grants of St James's), Mr Jeremy J B Bennett, Mr Eric Colwell and Mr Derek Stuart Todd (European Cultural Museum), Mr J B Ringer (Royal West Norfolk Golf Club), Mr Robert Esden (Clerk to the Council of the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor), Mr C H Tidbury (Worshipful Company of Brewers' Company) with Mr Derek Wise, Rear-Admiral Martin Wemyss and Mr R Cleering; Mr Charles Minoprio (Welsh Miscellaneous Trust), the Rev Peter Hatherley (representing the people of Bale and Sandringham).

Mr and Mrs Neville Kirby, Mr Peter Thompson, Colonel D M Chappel, Mr and Mrs Neville Studolph, Mr John Beckett, Mr and Mrs S T Graham, Mr Walter Phito, Mr E J Hanbury, Mr Michael Webster, Mr and Mrs George Smedley, Mr M R Lampard, Mr Peter J Prior, Rear-Admiral C D Madden, Mr and Mrs Julian Grenfell, Mr M Bunting, Mr Alex Bennett, Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Bury and Mr Ian Prosser.

Marriages

Mr D. Statham
and Miss H. Gordon Cumming
The marriage took place in New York on Friday, December 16, 1988, of Mr Donald Statham, son of *Mr D.E.S. Statham* and Mrs Snyder, and Miss Henrietta Gordon Cumming, youngest daughter of Sir William Gordon Cumming and Elisabeth, Lady Gordon Cumming.

Mr J.H. Davies
and Miss G.C.M. Todd
The marriage took place on Saturday, January 7, in Chester Cathedral, of Mr John Davies, son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Davies, of Broad Hinton, Wiltshire, and Miss Griselda Todd, daughter of Colonel and Mrs W.J.C. Todd, of Chester, Cheshire. Canon L. Roy Barker officiated.

A reception was held at Crabwall Manor Hotel, Mollington, Chester.

Mr R.J. Jurgens
and Miss D-M. Peach
The marriage took place on January 6, 1989, at St Patrick's Church, Miami, Florida, of Mr *Robert Jurgens, of Silchester*, Hampshire, and Miss Deana-Marie Peach, of Miami Shores, Florida. Mr Louis Fadhoul was best man.

Professor R.P. Morgan
and Mrs F.C. Howell
The marriage took place at Chelsea Old Town Hall, on December 21, 1988, of Professor Roger Morgan, of Florence, and Mrs Catherine Howell, of London.

Appointments



Mr Peter Leslie.

Mr Peter Leslie, Deputy Chairman of Barclays Bank, to be Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation for three years from July 1. He will succeed Lord Kindersley.

Ms Deborah Cooper to be Director of Skill, the National Bureau for Students with Disabilities, in succession to Mr Richard Stowell, who is to be field director for Voluntary Services Overseas in Sierra Leone. Ms Cooper is currently deputy director of Skill.

Mr Andrew Brennan has been appointed Headmaster of Thomas's Senior School, London. He was previously *deputy headmaster*.

RAF promotions

Air Marshal Sir Anthony Skingsley to be Deputy Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe in May, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Joseph Gilbert.

Air Vice-Marshal R. H. Palin to be Commander-in-Chief RAF Germany and Commander Second Allied Tactical Air Force in the rank of Air Marshal in April, in succession to Air Marshal Sir Anthony Skingsley.

Air Commodore A. B. Blackley to be Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations), Headquarters Allied Air Force Central Europe, in the rank of Air Vice-Marshal in May, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal J. R. Walker.

Air Vice-Marshal A. A. G. Woodford to be Assistant Chief of Staff (Policy), Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in January, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal M. J. Graydon.

Air Vice-Marshal R. E. Johns to be Senior Staff Officer, Headquarters Strike Command, from January 13, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal R. A. F. Wilson.

Air Vice-Marshal A. F. C. Hunter to be Commandant, RAF Staff College, Bracknell from January 13, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal D. T. Bryant.

Air Vice-Marshal D. B. A. L. Davies to be Principal Medical Officer, RAF Support Command, from January 13, in succession to Air Vice-Marshal G. Livingston.

Birthdays today

Mr Craigie Aitchison, painter, 63; Air Marshal Sir John Baker-Carr, 83; Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, former Premier of Queensland, 78; Mr Richard Blackford, composer, 35; Mr Michael Bond, author and creator of Paddington Bear, 63; Dr Sydney Brenner, CH, molecular biologist, 62; Lady Donaldson of Kingsbridge, author, 82; Mr Stephen Hendry, snooker player, 20; Major-General B.P. Hughes, 86; Mr Olaf Lambert, vice-president, AA, 64; Sir Alan Lubbock, former chairman, County Councils Association, 92; Mr Ronan Rafferty, golfer, 25; Mr Bernard Shrimsley, journalist, 58; Mr K.C. Turpin, former vice-chancellor, Oxford University, 74.

Clapham railway accident service

A memorial service for those who lost their lives in the Clapham railway accident will be held on Friday, January 20, in Winchester Cathedral, at 2.30 pm. All those who were involved are invited to attend and the service is open to the public. Further details may be obtained from the cathedral office.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for the Disabled, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at Lancaster House in honour of M Michel Gillibert, French Minister for the Disabled.

Receptions

Royal Society
Professor M.A. Epstein, Foreign Secretary and Vice-President of the Royal Society, and Professor J.B. Trapp, Foreign Secretary of the British Academy, were hosts at a reception held yesterday at 6 Carlton House Terrace to mark the first anniversary of the Royal Society and British Academy K.C. Wong Fellowship schemes. The principal guests were the Chinese Ambassador and Dr Abraham Lue, Assistant Principal of King's College London and UK Representative of the K.C. Wong Education Foundation.

English-Speaking Union
Mrs Valerie Mitchell, Director of Branches and Cultural Affairs of the English-Speaking Union, received the guests at a reception held yesterday evening at Dartmouth House after a talk given by Mr Alan Bennett. Mr Kevin Cahill was in the chair.

Polytechnic news

Plans to merge the Essex Institute of Higher Education and the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology on April 1 are going ahead. The title of the new institution, if approved, will be Anglia Polytechnic.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr V.P. Byrne
and Miss M.G. McEwen
The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of the late Wing Commander Vincent Byrne and of the Hon Mrs Vincent Byrne, of West Broyle Place, Chichester, Sussex, and Mary, daughter of the late Sir James McEwen, Bart, of Bardrochat and Mrs Kenneth Wagg, of Lower Portrack, Holywood, Dumfriesshire.

Mr A.E.C. Campbell
and Miss A.A. Hailes
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A.E.H. Campbell, of Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, and Amanda, daughter of Colonel and Mrs J.M.H. Hailes, of Chiselborough, Somerset.

Mr M.P.P. Chajkin
and Miss A.C. Kerr
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mrs W. Chajkin, of Stamford Brook, West London, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.H. Kerr, of 'Little Warden', Brasted, Kent.

Mr J.P. Chapman
and Miss G.P. Thompson
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs P.S. Chapman, of Hill Head, Hampshire, and Geraldine, daughter of Dr and Mrs J.B. Thompson, of Portchester, Hampshire.

Mr N.A. Finch
and Miss E.L. Severn
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Mr and Mrs D.C. Finch, of Henbury, Cheshire, and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs Roy Severn, of Rudgeway, Bristol.

Mr R. Drysdale
and Miss R.R. Smyth-Osbourne
The engagement is announced between Robert, youngest son of the late W.A. Drysdale and of Mrs C.G. Braithwaite, of Lochmalony, Cupar, Fife, and Rachel Rosa, daughter of the late Colonel E.T. Smyth-Osbourne and of Mrs E.T. Smyth-Osbourne, of Versions Farm, Brackley, Northamptonshire.

Mr W.L. Gardner
and Miss D.I. Birkett
The engagement is announced between William Lynn Gardner, of Virginia, and Diana Ismay Birkett, of London.

Mr C.A.L. Hayward
and Miss S.A. Clarke
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs L.D. Hayward, of Great Crosby, Liverpool, and Sally, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs S.W. Clarke, of Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire.

Dr D.R. Hunter
and Mlle M-J. Fuchs
The engagement is announced between Duncan, only son of Mrs Eliza Hunter, of Wollaton, Nottingham, and the late Mr D.W. Hunter, and Marie-Josée, second daughter of M Jean-Paul Fuchs, Deputé, and Mme Geneviève Fuchs, of Colmar, Alsace, France.

Major M. Johnson
and Miss C. Nicholas
The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of Mr and Mrs E.T. Johnson, of Aughton, Lancashire, and Carrie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs K.R. Nicholas, of Bovey Tracey, Devon.

Mr N.R.M. Kellett
and Miss M.N. Bulgakoff
The engagement is announced between Nigel, eldest son of Mr and Mrs M.J.E. Kellett, of Cloth Fair, City of London, and Margarita, only daughter of Mrs K.S. Danko and the late Mr N.N. Danko, of Streatham, London.

Mr K.F. Lay
and Miss K.A. Stow
The engagement is announced between Ka Fue, youngest son of Lay Tang Duong and Tinh Nhi Mui, of Vietnam, and Katharine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.G. Stow, of 92 Christchurch Road, Winchester.

Mr S.W. Marlow, QGM
and Miss T.E. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Stephen William, younger son of Mr and Mrs John William Marlow, of Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire, and Toni Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Derrick Francis Simpson, of Bournemouth, Hampshire.

Mr M.J. Parr
and Miss E.M. Cagdas
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs Eric S. Parr, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, and Esra, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Mesud Cagdas, of St John's Wood, London.

Mr N. Richards
and Miss E.F.J. Laidlaw
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs S.H. Richards, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and Elizabeth Frances Johnston, elder daughter of Professor and Mrs J.C. Laidlaw, of Aberdeen.

Mr P.E.M. Sime
and Miss V.J. Nokes
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs I.F. Sime, of Crewe, Cheshire, and Vanessa, daughter of Mr and Mrs L.W.J. Nokes, of Malvern, Worcestershire.

Mr A.M. Standing
and Miss R.A. Baring
The engagement is announced between Andy, son of the late Mr Michael Standing, CBE, and of Mrs Standing, of Harvel, Kent, and Rosy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Baring, of West Malling, Kent.

Mr D.A. Webster
and Miss L. Turnbull
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A.G.S. Webster, of Ipswich, Suffolk, and Lucinda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.M.G. Turnbull, of Pirbright, Surrey.

Mr J.A. Whittaker
and Miss V.C. Snodgrass
The engagement is announced between James Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs N.B. Whittaker, of Cowpe, Rossendale, Lancashire, and Victoria Caroline, only daughter of the late Colonel A.J. Snodgrass, OBE, and Mrs Snodgrass, formerly of Bruisyard, Suffolk, and Salisbury.

Mr N.M. Worthington
and Miss F.A. Short
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of His Honour Judge Worthington and Mrs Worthington, of London, and Fiona Angeline, daughter of Commander and Mrs Keith Short, of Esher, Surrey.

OBITUARIES

SIR GEOFFREY TUTTLE

Bringing the RAF into the missile age



Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Tuttle, KBE, CB, DFC, FRAes, who died on January 11 aged 82, played a leading role as a Deputy Chief of the Air Staff and Member of the Air Council from 1956 to 1959, in some of the major Air Staff decisions — when the RAF was getting its V-Bombers and air to air missiles, Skyflash and Firestreak, and was developing the Blue Steel stand-off bomb, alas cancelled in favour of the US Skybolt air-launched ballistic missile which never materialized as an RAF weapon.

After retiring from the Service in 1960 he joined British Aircraft Corporation when TSR2 was being developed. Though this project which would have given Britain an unassailable lead in swing-wing low-level intruder technology, was cancelled, Tuttle was active in many aspects of BAC's activities over twenty years, ranging from flight trials in Concorde to selling Viscount prop-jet airliners to the Chinese.

Born on October 2, 1902, Tuttle had begun his RAF career in an ethos far removed from that of guided missiles and supersonic air travel. In the 1930s he was, as he liked to put it, "playing tag" with rebellious tribesmen round the mountain tops of the North West Frontier, and he was awarded the DFC in 1937.

When the Second World War began on September 3, 1939, Tuttle led the headquarters section of the Advanced Air Striking Force to France and it was while there, that he learned the value of photo reconnaissance.

When he came back to Britain he made a valuable wartime contribution to the RAF, developing this aspect of air operations from a hit-and-miss business into a sophisticated art in which high-flying Spitfires regularly and accurately photographed the results of Bomber Command's raids.

Mapping of enemy or enemy-held territory to note new dispositions was another aspect of the unit's operations which he raised from an irregular business into a precision craft.

Tuttle commanded the Photographic Development Unit until 1941, and his involvement is recounted in the book *Evidence in Camera* by Constance Babington Smith (1958).

Subsequently (by now a group captain) he commanded RAF stations Tiree and Leuchars, then in 1943 became Senior Air Staff Officer at No 18 Group, Pitreavie Castle, engaged on anti-submarine patrol duties for Coastal Command.

His next job was in the Mediterranean where he was in charge of the anti-shipping wing of the Allied Coastal Forces.

He followed this wing to Corsica, the South of France and Italy, and after the liberation of Greece he took charge of the RAF there, and of the Royal Hellenic Air Force.

To add to his CB (mil), he also received Soviet, Greek and French honours and was twice mentioned in despatches, in 1940 and 1944. After returning to the UK at the end of 1946 he took the 1947 Imperial defence College course.

After the war he moved steadily up the Air Ministry ladder in between operational appointments and when rockets began to blow holes in air fighting theories which had rested for years on cannon and machine guns, he was among those senior men in charge of making sure development and procurement policies worked.

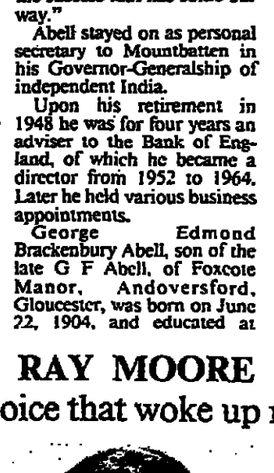
During his tenure of the office of Deputy Chief of Air Staff the RAF became closely involved with the USAF, in the co-ordination of strategic deterrent plans and in the deployment of Thor Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles in the UK. It was a heady time for the missile men; for a while, indeed, in the 1960s, the very role of the manned fighter seemed to be under threat, and there was gloom in fighter command. But eventually the RAF emerged from the process of a modernisation that amounted almost to revolution, with a role very much assured and enhanced.

Tuttle's involment with such radical programmes made him a natural candidate for the senior echelons of BAC when he retired from the RAF, and his contribution there was wide-ranging. He was aboard for some of the early long-range flights of the Concorde prototype 002, and his practical expertise was much valued.

He was unmarried.

SIR GEORGE ABELL

Private Secretary to two last Viceroys of India



Sir George Abell, KCIE, OBE, a director of the Bank of England from 1952 to 1964, who had borne heavy responsibilities as private secretary to the last two Viceroys of India, Lord Wavell and Lord Mountbatten, died on January 11 aged 84.

Abell had earlier served as deputy Secretary to their predecessor, Lord Linlithgow.

Possesed of an engaging personality and an acute mind, it was well written of him by Mr Alan Campbell-Johnson, press officer on Lord Mountbatten's staff, that "he is one of those Olympians of double First and treble Blue vintage with the capacity of taking every form of work and play in his stride."

The change in style between the regimes of Linlithgow and Wavell was sharp, and the continuity of a first class private secretary was invaluable, as it proved, too, upon the next change of Viceroy.

The war was still unfinished and the fierce political ferment arising from the prospect of self-government for the Indian sub-continent and the possibility of partition threw a heavy burden upon Abell, for his chief, a great soldier, was not an experienced civil administrator.

One of his most important duties under Wavell was to service the Cabinet Mission sent out under the chairmanship of Lord Pethick-Lawrence in the spring of 1946.

There followed rejection of the Mission's plan and formation of an interim national government with Jawaharlal Nehru as Vice-President, followed after two months by the adherence of the Muslim League. The government became a house divided against itself. A complete breakdown of central authority threatened and Wavell's efforts were exhausted.

Wavell's resignation and his replacement by Lord Mountbatten presented the Viceroy's secretariat with new problems, and with vast new responsibilities in conducting Mountbatten's negotiations with Indian leaders and the development of his plan for the transfer of power.

Mountbatten initiated regular meetings with his staff to discuss the state of play in his negotiations, and in these Abell played a quiet but constructive part.

In a letter to the Secretary of State, Lord Listowel, at the end of his viceregal term Mountbatten wrote: "It is impossible to over-estimate the value that George Abell and his P.S.V. team have been to the U.K team" — of special staff headed by Lord Ismay which Mountbatten brought out with him. "They had every reason for their noses to be put out of joint by the new set-up, but they played up 100 per cent, and without them we would never have achieved the success that has come our way."

Abell stayed on as personal secretary to Mountbatten in his Governor-Generalship of independent India.

Upon his retirement in 1948 he was for four years an adviser to the Bank of England, of which he became a director from 1952 to 1964. Later he held various business appointments.

George Edmond Brackenbury Abell, son of the late G F Abell, of Foxcote Manor, Andoversford, Gloucester, was born on June 22, 1904, and educated at Marlborough and Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

He was a keen all-round sportsman, and in a small college, as Corpus then was, his versatility in all ball games was at a premium. He captained the University rugby team in 1926 and also won Blues for cricket and hockey. He played cricket for Worcester in the days of M K Foster, and in later years, on half a dozen occasions, captained the county team.

Abell joined the Indian Civil Service at the end of 1928 and was posted to the Punjab, where he was recognised to be an outstanding district officer.

In 1932 he was appointed deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, which aimed at giving credit facilities to the rural peasantry to save them from the extortions of money-lenders. From 1935 he served as a Settlement Officer.

In 1941 Sir Bertrand Glancy, Governor of the Punjab, selected him to be his Private Secretary. This experience paved the way for his appointment two years later to be Deputy Secretary to Lord Linlithgow.

From 1964 to 1967 Abell was First Civil Service Commissioner.

He was a member of the governing bodies of Reading University, Cheltenham College and his old school, Marlborough. In 1971 Corpus Christi College elected him an honorary Fellow.

He was a Rhodes Trustee from 1949 and chairman of the Trustees 1969 to 1974.

Abell was not given to publicity or to many words, and the great services he rendered to his country, to the Indian sub-continent, to education and to the public were mostly concealed in characteristic self-effacement.

He married in 1928 Susan, daughter of A F Norman-Butler, who survives him together with two sons and one daughter.

RAY MOORE

Radio voice that woke up millions



Ray Moore, who died from cancer on January 11 at the age of 47, was a popular BBC presenter who was best known for his early morning programme on Radio 2 which gave him an opportunity to ventilate his natural, easy-flowing and spontaneous style.

It was estimated that five million bleary-eyed Britons nationwide began their day listening to part if not all of his two-hour early morning programme on which he interspersed popular music records with lighthearted quips and badinage.

The programme became so popular that it ran for seven years and only ended when Moore was forced to withdraw from broadcasting in January of last year because the throat cancer from which he was suffering was distorting his voice.

During the seven years he presented it, the programme won numerous awards for its entertainment value and last year Moore himself received the Broadcasting Press Guild award for his outstanding contribution to radio and was named BBC radio personality.

Moore was born in Liverpool and worked for a brief time as a docker before taking up a stage career. He became stage manager of the Oldham Repertory Company in 1961, performed in old time music hall in Devon, and acted with the Swansea Repertory Company, before joining the BBC in Manchester in 1965.

He moved to London in 1967 to work on BBC Radio 2. He became a freelance broadcaster in 1973 and began his early-morning programme in 1981.

Moore also presented several light entertainment programmes on television, including the Miss World and Eurovision song contests.

He made two records himself which met with success: the first, *My Father had a Rabbit*, was based on a Scouse rhyme from his childhood, while the second, *Bog Eyed Jog*, raised considerable sums for the BBC Children in Need appeal.

Moore also wrote an autobiography *Tomorrow Is Too Late* which was published last September and has since become a best-seller.

He is survived by his wife, Alma, who became familiar to his radio audiences through his jocular references to her as "the management".

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things, and we by him. 1 Corinthians 8 6

BIRTHS

BRANDON - On January 10th at Hinchingbrooke Hospital, Huntingdon to Beatrice and Stephen a daughter, Arabella Beatrice May.

CROOKSHANK - On January 9th, 1989, to Kathryn (née Reading) and Charles, a daughter, Emily Rose, a sister for Annabel.

HODKINSON - On January 8th, to Frances (née Machin) and David, a daughter, Elizabeth Frances.

HUNTER - On January 10th, to Carlyn (née Quinn) and Laurie, a son, Archibald Robert Laurie, a brother to Christopher and Grace.

JENKINS - On January 9th, to Gareth and Joyce (née Hicks) a son Harry David, a brother for Amy.

KILLICK - On January 10th 1989 to Lynda (née Wilson) and Mark, a daughter, Alexandra.

LINTOTT - On December 24th, 1988, in New York to Lucy (née Dupree) and Guy, a son, Oliver James Guy, a brother for Sophia, Georgina and Annabel.

MUNDAY - On January 9th 1989, to Catherine (née Ramus) and Jon, a daughter, Eleanor Catherine.

NASH - On January 3rd, to Judith (née Brown) and Peter, a son, Thomas Christopher, a brother for Alice, Edward and Harriet.

NEWEY - On 7th January 1989 to Vicki (née Fletcher) and Mark a beautiful daughter Alexandra Helen.

PALMER - On January 9th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Gillian (née Murphy) and Charles, a daughter Abigail Alice, a sister for Harry.

POWLES NICHOLSON - On January 10th to Caroline (née Rollinson) and Graham a daughter, a sister for Emily, James and Thomas.

SMITH - On January 9th at Chase Farm Hospital Enfield to Jacqueline (née Heasman) and Quentin a daughter Lauren Jennifer.

TOOR - On January 11th, at Harold Wood Hospital, to Irene (née Dell) and Nigel, God's gift of a son, Jonathan Oliver.

RUDWICK - On January 6th to Joanna (née Morley) and Nigel, a son, James Ashley.

WYMAN - On January 9th at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Jo (née White) and Roy, a daughter, Alice Victoria.

ZMARSKI - On November 2nd '88, to Jill and Gavan in Melbourne, Australia, a son, Nicholas Casimir Zichy.

DEATHS

...LL - On January 11th, peacefully at home after a short illness, George Raymond Brackenbury K.C.I.E., ...E., dearly loved husband of ...an, father of Tim, John and ...ella. Funeral Service will be held at Church of the Holy Cross, ...bury at 12 noon on Tuesday, January 17th. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Brendoncare, ...field, Marlborough, Wilts. A Thanksgiving Service will be held ...

...ON - On January 6th, in New ...and, Edwin Joseph Barton (Ted) ...erly of Beckenham and ...field, husband of Edna and ...r of Michael and Antony. A ...ed husband and father ...rely missed. Enquiries Tel: ...(283) 5387

...EY - On January 12th 1989, ... a short illness, Mary. ...ation at Golders Green ...atorium at 12 noon on ...sday 19th January 1989. No ...rs.

...E - On January 9th, Edith, ... of the late Professor Denis ...e, mother of Elizabeth and ... Funeral service at St Peter's, ...y, Lancs, on Wednesday ...ry 18th at 1.00pm. Flowers to ...Bros. 76 Gores Lane, Formby.

...GTON (De Nitto) - On January ... peacefully at home in Fetcham, ... previously of Skeena Hill, ...fields, Frank, Cavaliere ...e, aged 90 years. Deeply ... husband of Celia, loved and ...father of Mario George and his ...nice and grandfather of Mark ...e. Requiem Mass at Our Lady ..., Peter's, 16 Victoria Drive, ...6AD on Thursday, January ...t 12.00 noon followed by ...nt at Putney Vale Cemetery. ... Flowers to L. Hawkins & ...Ltd. 2 Highlands Road, ...head, Surrey.

... On January 11th, peacefully ...no, Sweden, Philip Charles ...ue Gilbert, beloved husband, ...nd grandfather.

... - On January 12th, ...lly in her sleep, in Christ aged ...a Gray. Beloved widow of ...nd dear mother of Ben. ... flowers only, donations to ...etropolitan Society for the ...uke House, Tabard St, SE1. ...s to Brian Warner ...3) 240268.

... On January 11th, 1989, ...y at home, Sidney Edwin Halsall, beloved husband of ...d loving father of Jennifer ..., grandfather to Benjamin, ... and Timothy, father-in-...eva-Maria. Funeral service ...ay January 16th at 2.00 pm ... Mary's R.C. Church. ...r. Family flowers only, ...s if desired to Wexham Park ...undation, Slough, Berks.

HAMILTON - On December 26th, 1988, very peacefully in the evening, Jennie, aged 96 years, beloved wife and companion of the late David A Hamilton and devoted mother and friend of Ian. Private Cremation has taken place and there will be a Memorial Service in London. Enquiries through Messrs. Michael J. Franklin, Ramsbury, Wiltshire, SN8 2PG Telephone (0672) 20241.

HAMILTON - On January 11th 1989, suddenly and peacefully, Mamie, wife of the late Professor W H Hamilton. Much loved mother and grandmother. Quiet, family funeral, no flowers please. Enquiries to T.A. Ellement and Son, 21 Bridge St, Pinner Tel: 01-866 0324.

HINGSTON - On January 11th, 1989, Dr Cicely Lamorna Hingston MBE, (Mil), MRCS, LRCP, DPM, FRCPsych, peacefully aged 94. Funeral service at All Saints Church, Hove, 3.00 pm, Monday 23rd January, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations to RNLI.

HLA MYINT - On January 9th, Dr Hla Myint of The Pines, Shirley Hills, Surrey. Husband of Dr. T. T. Myint. Father of Dr's. Steven, Fiona and Joy-Bell. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends. The funeral will be held on January 13th at 10.30 am, at Croydon Crematorium.

HOPKINS - Joan Lilian, of West Hill, East Devon, formerly of Little Bookham, Surrey. Died peacefully on 10th January, 1989. Daughter of the late Harold and Eva Hopkins. Former Head Mistress of St Teresa's School, Effingham. Dear friend of Yvonne and Barbara. She will be sadly missed by her many friends. Mass will be celebrated at the Church of Blessed Sacrament, Heavitree, Exeter on Tuesday 17th January at 11 am followed by cremation at 12 noon. Floral tributes if desired or donations for Exeter Leukaemia Fund, to LeRoy Funeral Service, 10 Alphington Road, Exeter.

JOHNSON - On January 10th, peacefully in hospital, Frank Harcourt Johnson, much loved husband of Bunty and father of Jeffrey. Funeral private by request. No flowers please but donations if desired to Sir Michael Sobell House, Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

KNAKE - On January 11th peacefully at her flat in Putney, Wanda, aged 89, formerly of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Equator, Kenya. Dear and devoted mother of Eva, champion of grand daughters Sandra and Janet, and playmate of great grandson Timothy. Funeral at St.John's, Putney at 10.30am January 14th c/o Messrs and Cotterill 01-874 7698. 'Go placidly amid the Noise & Haste'.

LLOYD-JONES - On January 10th at Castleford Nursing Home, David, very dear husband of Marie and loving father of Patricia, Diane and Hilary and much loved Grandpa. Funeral service Wednesday January 18th 1 pm, at St. Mary's Church, Chepstow, prior to cremation at The Gwent Crematorium, 2.40 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, for Dr Barnardo's may be sent to Mrs B. Humphrey, Wyelnot, Chapel Lane, Tintern, Chepstow, Gwent. Further enquiries to Philip Blatchly & Son Ltd. 5 Station Rd., Chepstow. Tel:Chepstow 4939

LONGSON - On January 11th 1989, at Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, Michael Haworth Longson (former Head of Classics Department, Edinburgh Academy). Beloved brother of Penelope Murray-Davey and a dear uncle. Service at Warriston Crematorium Main Chapel, Edinburgh on Tuesday January 17th at 4 pm to which all friends are invited.

NEWSUM - On January 11th, peacefully in Lincoln, after a long illness, borne with immense courage, Dorothy in her 88th year, widow of Henry and much loved mother of Neill, David and Shirley, and a beloved Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. Cremation private followed by Service of Thanksgiving at St. Nicholas Church, Newport, Lincoln at 2.15pm on Wednesday, January 18th. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St. Barnabas Hospice, 17 Lindum Terrace, Lincoln.

NORRIS - on January 11th, 1989 at 4.30 am at Monmouth General Hospital, Gwent. Lt. Col. F.E. Norris O.B.E.M.C. (R.E.M.E. retd). Apprentice mechanical engineer in 1914, rising through the ranks to serve in India, Aden, France (awarded the Military Cross after Dunkirk) and with the 8th army in Egypt from its conception Also awarded the O.B.E. in Italy. Father of Patricia and John. May his spirit 'soar with the eagles'

PULLEY - On January 12th, 1989 peacefully at Odstock Hospice, Salisbury, Hugh, sadly missed by the families of his brother's Charles and Chris, his niece Rosemary and his friends. The funeral at Salisbury Crematorium on January 18th at 12.45 pm. No flowers. Donations to Cancer Research c/o L N. Newman Ltd, 55 Winchester St., Salisbury.

PULTENEY - On January 6th, suddenly at home, Francis Bartholomew B.E.M., F.R.S.A. Sadly missed by his many friends. Cremation at West London Crematorium, on Tuesday January 17th 1989, at 10 am. Flowers to: J H Kenyon, 83 Westbourne Grove, London, W2 by 9am.

RUSSELL - On January 9th 1989, peacefully at Ferfoot Residential Home, Chippenham, Wilts, Miss Winifred Eleanor Russell, aged 93 years, formerly of London and Bradford-On-Avon, Wilts. Funeral Service, 3.20 pm on Wednesday 18th January, at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath. Any enquiries to Mrs Ann Barton : Tel: (0249) 658677.

SANDERS - On January 11th, 1989, Air Commodore Philip James Sanders aged 77, at home, beloved husband of Mary (née Welbergen) father of Robert, Nicholas and Susan, grandfather to his many grandchildren Funeral private. A Thanksgiving service will be announced later.

SMART - On January 12th, 1989 suddenly in the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham, Canon Eric Roy Smart, Vicar of Evesham (formerly of Dudley and St Thomas, Derby). Much loved husband, father, grandfather and son.

SPICER - On January 10th peacefully in his sleep at his home in Great Chart, Rodney, only son of Douglas and Ivy Spicer. Funeral at Great Chart Parish Church on Saturday, January 14th at 10.45 am. Flowers to T.W Fuggle And Sons, 20 Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent.

THIRKELL - On January 10th 1989, at home, Lance, Husband of Katharine and father of Georgiana, Serena, Robert and Thomas. Grandfather of Tristram and Matilda. Funeral private. Memorial service to be announced later.

TUTTLE - On January 11th, 1989 peacefully at Charing Cross Hospital aged 82, Sir Geoffrey William K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C., Air Marshal, son of the late Ernest Tuttle of Lowestoft. Cremation private. There will be no flowers or memorial service at his own request.

VALENTINE - On January 10th, peacefully in hospital in her 94th year, after a short illness, Lady Freda, C.B.E., elder daughter of the late 8th Earl of Lanesborough, widow of Dr. Frank Valentine F.R.C.P., mother of Danvers and James and grandmother of Alastair, Clare, Ian, Sibella and Robert. For many years Honorary Treasurer of The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Funeral Service on Friday January 20th at Mid Warwickshire Crematorium Oakley Wood, Leamington Spa, at 2.30pm. A Memorial Service will be arranged later in London. Donations may be made to The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Enquiries: AB Taylor Funeral Services Ltd, 49 Wolverhampton Road South, Birmingham B32 2AY. Telephone 021 420 3666

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IMPEY - A service of thanksgiving for Lawrence Impey will be held at 2.30pm on Saturday, February 4th at St. Mary's Church, Easton, nr Winchester

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

BULLOCK - There will be a Thanksgiving for the life and work of Percy Bullock, for 47 years boatman to Jesus College, Cambridge, in the College Chapel at 2.30pm on Saturday January 21st 1989.

COLES - A service of thanksgiving for Henry will be held in St John The Divine Church, Patching at 2.30pm on Thursday January 26th.

COOKSON - Gracie, Happy Birthday Mummy, I miss you today and always. Junie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANYONE knowing current status of Vera (née Budd) residing pre war in Hounslow would greatly oblige an old friend by contacting Henderson at 01-302 1011.

CANCER RELIEF MACMILLAN FUND. Held flag days on 5th and 7th July 1988. The Metropolitan Area Collection amounted to £68 766 less expenses of £5,035. The City of London collected £5,012 less expenses of £200 making a net total of £69,643. The Charity thanks all those who contributed to such a magnificent result.

THEOFANIS Announces the birth of his brainchild, Theomania. Born on the day of Epiphany 6th January 1989.

MILITARY CROSS Would anyone knowing of the Military Cross having been won prior to September 26th 1914, kindly communicate details to Dr. Watkins, 5561 Parker Avenue, Victoria, British Columbia.

SERVICES

HELENA INTERNATIONAL
Established 1974
The professional Introduction Service for individuals of the highest calibre. For further information or to arrange an informal appointment with no obligation, please phone (01) 409 2913/01 491 0216
17 Hill Street, Mayfair London, W1X 7FB
or
(061) 833 2728
36 King St, Manchester M2 6BA

A BOOK FOR LIFE. Your own, published autobiography, ghost written by eminent author and published to highest professional standards. A unique family heirloom and a magnificent gift for your relatives, friends and colleagues. Information pack: 30A London Road, Kingston, Surrey, KT2 6QF. Phone 01 546 3043 today.

ALCOHOL PROBLEM? Confidential help on the Costa del Sol, small, secluded, luxurious centre with specialised medical treatment when required or just a break from "the alcohol scene". Phone or write Le Hermitage, 03/4 Cancelada, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, Spain. Tel: (010 34 52) 792761 or (010 34) 08 151515.

FRIENDSHIP, love or marriage in your area. Free details: Dateline, Dept (848), 23 Abingdon Road, London, W8. Tel: 01-938 1011.

THE CAFE Society formerly Links have pleasure in inviting unattached ladies and gentlemen of mainly professional and business status to apply for membership with The Cafe Society. Enrolled members are formerly invited to attend five venues per membership year dinner and dances held at leading London hotels. Formal dress would be required. Applicants would be requested to attend a personal meeting to take place at a well known London hotel on the 26th and 27th of January or 2nd/3rd March. Appointments arranged upon return of proposal form. For proposal form apply to: Cafe Society (Links) Freepost 119, no stamp required, Gillingham, Kent, ME3 6BR, or telephone (0634) 830818 (24 hours). We respectfully remind you that we are not a marriage/dating bureau.

WANTED

WANTED
International Rugby tickets for corporate clients
Best prices paid.
Call Craven Travel.
Tel: 01 930 4536.

FOUNTAIN PENS Collector wants large or interesting old pens. Also wanted in Gold or Silver. Reply to 11 The Broadway, Gunnersbury Lane, London W5 8HR Tel 01 9 8 6120 (evenings)

S. MILTON FISHER (1890 to 1950) Collector seeks good oil paintings by this artist. Exceptional prices paid. Reply to BOX C87

TWICKENHAM 89 England/Scotland, England/France tickets urgently required for corporate clients. Ring 01 831 8408 (T).

WANTED antique mechanical machines such as typewriters, adding-machines, sewing machines (pre 1878), surveyors, hand powered vacuum cleaners and radios (pre 1936) Peter Frei, Lagerstr 27, CH-8600 Dubendorf, Switzerland, phone 01041/1/821/7311 Complete want-list on request

WE wish to buy good quality decorative and antique furniture. Tel: business hours 01 823 3108.

FOR SALE

MARKSON'S PIANO SALE IS NOT ON!
With prices cheaper than others sale prices, who needs a sale? Hundreds of uprights and grands to choose from. Take advantage of our unique hire with option to purchase plan from only £18pm
Albany Street, NW1
01-935 8682
Artillery Place, SE18
01-854 4517
Dawes Road, SW6
01-381 4123

SINATRA, CLAPTON, PHANTOM, MISERABLE, ASPECTS OF LOVE
and all Pop shows.
All credit cards accepted.
Phone 01-439 0300.

THE PIANO WORKSHOP -SALE- ENGLAND'S PREMIER PIANO CENTRE
Large discounts on all new and restored uprights and Grands.
SALE OF ROLAND ELECTRONIC PIANO
For free catalogue and further details
01-267 7671
30A Highgate Road, London NW5

AARDVARK TICKETS Phantom, Les Mis, Cats, all sport, theatre and pop. Tel 01 493 0427/408 1688 fax 01 629 0417.

ABLE to get tickets? Phantom, Les Mis, Cats etc & all theatre & sporting events. All CC's. 01-439 1763 (T).

ALL tickets for all events. Phantom, Les Mis, Eric Clapton and Rugby Int. Sport and Pop Tel:01 706 0363/0366 (T).

ALL Tickets bought & sold. Theatre (Phantom), pop concerts (Clapton) & sporting events CC's. 01-436 0491 T

ALL Rugby bought/sold Phantom, Les Mis, Clapton, all pop buy/sell. Tel: 01 497 2635

ALL EVENTS Phantom, Les Mis, Cats, Pop & Sport call now for immediate or future bookings on 01 734 8771 c.c.Acc

ALL RUGBY Int bought & sold Phantom, Les Mis, Eric Clapton, Bryan Ferry, All Football. CCs (City) 01-621 9693 T.

ANY sold out events. Phantom, Les Mis, Clapton, Rugby, theatre and sporting events, CCs accepted. Phone 01-262 2985 / 706 1444 / 778 9373 anytime

BONZACK Circular bathroom suite. Immaculate condition, with matching basins. £1,600 ono. Tel: (0202) 767069 day or (0202) 872684 night.

BURGUNDY leather sofa and pair armchairs almost new, top quality, ex Harrods. £1250. Tel. 01-629 8060.

GENUINE Old York paving stones. First class quality at a very competitive price. Free delivery. Tel: 0626 833721

RECONDITIONED GRANDS at Knightsbridge Pianos: Bosendorfer 5ft 6", £10,950, Steinway 6ft £10,950, Bechstein 6ft 6" £5,950, Blüthner 6ft 3" £5,950. Many others from £2,250 including Challen, Chappell, Ibach, Yamaha and Kawai. Raphael St. SW1. 01-584 2581.

SEATFINDERS. Best tickets for all sold out events incl Les Miserables, Phantom, Covent Gdn., Frank Sinatra. Our clients incl most major Co's. C.Cards accepted. 01-828 1678.

THE TIMES 1791-1988. Other titles avail. Hand bound ready for presentation - also "Sundays". £13.50. Remember When. 01 688 6323/6324.

TICKETS for Phantom, Les Miserables, Theatres and all sporting events. Credit cards. Tel 01 226 1338/9 (T).

TOP quality blue Sarga Fox, 1 year old, 4ft 2inch. Original price £3,000 sale price £1,200. Tel 01- 886 9866.

CONCERT PIANIST selling collection of Bechstein Grands. Beautiful instruments £6,800 to £8,700 01 686 4981.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER dog puppies for sale ready Jan 15th home reared KC reg both parents have had hips and eyes tested £220 each Tel (0252) 711936

STEINWAY Rosewood boudoir grand Number 153073 in good order £6,000 Tel (0743) 76279.

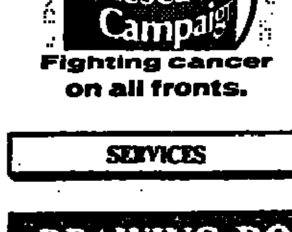
ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

THE WEST LONDON ANTIQUES FAIR
Kensington Town Hall: Hornton St, off Kensington High St, W8
12th - 15th January
90 stands on 3 floors
Vetted to a high standard
Most items pre 1870
Wkdays 11am-8pm, Wkends 11am-6pm
Adm.£3 incl. catalogue
Enq: 04447 2514.
At the Fair 01-937 0063

OVER 90 Pianos to be sold by auction. Uprights, Grands, Pianolas and Square pianos. Estimates from £250 - £15,000. Sale starts 11.00 am Thursday 19th January - viewing two days prior. Contact: Phillips West Two, 10 Salem Road, London W2 4BU. Tel: 01-229 9090 or Fax: 01-792 9201.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We fund one third of all research into the prevention and cure of cancer in the UK
Help us by sending a donation or making a legacy to: (Dept TT/13/1)
2 Carlton Hse Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.



Fighting cancer on all fronts.

SERVICES

DRAWING DOWN THE MOON
THE THINKING PERSON'S INTRODUCTION AGENCY

'...a partner for life ... that is where Drawing Down the Moon comes in.'
Financial Times
'Mary Balfour ... could match up an Anais Nin or a Spike Milligan without much difficulty.'
Times Literary Supplement
'...attractive men and women from a cross-section of professions'
London Evening Standard
'The Mensa of introduction agencies.'
The Independent
'...a personalised service for well educated professions.'

FOR A FRIENDLY CONSULTATION RING
01-937 8880 / 01-938 2151

LECTURES & MEETINGS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON (Gower St WC1E 6BT): Public Lectures in various subjects commencing Tues 17 Jan. Will be held during the Spring Term in the Lunch-Hour (1 15 to 1 55 pm) and in the evening. Admission Free Without Ticket.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON, (Gower St WC1): Louis Littman Memorial Lecture series. Tues 17 Jan 6pm 'Jewish Perceptions and Dilemmas in Russia and the USSR' Wed 20 Jan 6pm. Prof Chimen Abramsky "Two hundred years of the French Revolution and Jewish Emancipation" (in memory of Prof S Ettinger). Gustave Tuck Theatre Admission Free. Without Ticket.

FLATSHARE

ANNABEL'S Flatshare Rooms galore! Letting free Looking? Give us a ring and see 01 244 7309/0

BALHAM Professional M/F to share furnished house with owner. Own room. Near tube £260 inclusive pcm. Tel. 01-673 8360

BARNES a tad five Prof female req. Own dble bedrm. Share living rm, kit/dining & bathrm. £60 pw + bills. 878 4614 eves. Work 389 7121 ex 247

BATTERSEA - Large luxury house, including garden and roof terrace, wants 2 lively people to share a large room. £40p/w each Tel:01 686 1301

CHELSEA Own room in quiet house 28 mins approx to city via Thames Line £70 pw incl Tel:01 381 1150

CLAPHAM prof m/f 2 mins Clapham Junction £45 to £55 per week. Ring 223 8489

CLAPHAM COMMON Prof m/f to share flat with other female, O/r £226 pcm incl P Howell on 01 723 6118 day

CLAPHAM PARK Professional n/s to share spacious house o/r quiet road £58 p/w inc. Tel 01 674 0490

CLAPHAM SW 12 Enormous sunny double room in house nr common tube & shops. All mod cons £230 pcm excl N/S Tel. 01 675 4274

DOCKLANDS Lge bed in house. All facs inc w/m Garden off st prkng Nr good tubes, buses & shopping £280 pcm inc. Tel 01 987 2147 (D) or 01 202 3184 (E)

EARLSFIELD 3rd person to share lively, comfortable flat. Prof M/F 12 mins W'loo Big room £240 pcm excl. 541 8267 (days). 947 3262 (eves and W/E)

E DULWICH - O/R for N/S mod cons. C/H, BR/buses. £170 PCM. EXC Tel 01 402 2272 ex222

FLATMATES Selective Sharing. Well established introductory service. Please telephone for appointment: 01 689 5491. 313 Brompton Road, SW3

FULHAM Prof F for own double room in shared flat. Off street parking £70 pw plus bills. Tel. 01 937 1084.

FULHAM, Non smoking prof f to share quiet Fulham flat 6 mins tube £70 plus bills. Tel 01 731 2696 eves and w ends.

GREENWICH - Exel. m/f, n/s, to stir friendly comf hse. Clse Westcombe Park B.R, 15 mins City £45/£50 PW excl. Tel 01 853 6804 (eves or w/e).

HARLEY ST Non smoker for large room in luxury flat, share with one other. All amenities. £85 pw incl. Tel: 01-937 9684 (9 - 11 am / after 6.00pm).

ISLINGTON Quiet spu 3 mins Angel tube, own dber room, share K & B. £80 pw inc. Tel:01-837 6720 (after 6.00pm)

ISLINGTON - person to share fully equipped flat, near amenities and City. £88 pw. Tel. 01-264 7739 (H) or 01-600 0808 x2824 (W).

ISLINGTON N/S Female 26+ own room in basement flat. Close BR. £183 pcm incl Tel 01-359 5968 after 6.30pm.

KENSINGTON High Street, mature girl. To share large luxury flat. Own double room in happy home. Sense of humour, non smoker essential £98.00 per week. Deposit, returnable. Plus ref. Tel: 01 957 0638.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Prof fem. Sunny room in large lux flat over park, porterage. £90 pw Tel:01-589 8439

MAIDA VALE prof f 30sh, o/r near tube, beautiful flat, colour tv, video, answer phone. £62 pw exclusive. 289 2504.

MAIDA VALE Spacious, all mod cons. 2 mins tube, telephone £216 pcm inc. 01 289 6786 evenings.

N.11. 1/2 prof f, n/s, lge light rm, ch, gdn, 3 mins piccadilly line, 1 min BR, quiet area. £60 per room. 01 881 0668.

NR KEW - Close tube, lge comf room in maisonette, £60 PW inc services. Tel:01 374 1808 or 948 8816 eves.

PECKHAM Queens Road SE15, 6 mins London Bridge 2 rooms to let in shared house. Suit n/s prof m/f person. GCH. All amenities. £226pppm inc Please phone Dr Dalal 01-997 2076

PUTNEY SW15: Own room for n/s m/f in CH flat. TV lounge, w/m, parking. £50pw inc. 01-788 7689.

SOUTHFIELDS Large o/r in CH flat for prof F mid 20's n/s. 1 min tube & local shops. £200 pcm excl. 01-489 9255 (day) 01-874 4105 (eves).

STRATFORD E15 Prof o/r lux & v clean nr T/BR, 15 min Liv St. £45 pw exc. Tel: 01 534 3002 eves.

SW15 Prof M/F Own room, in comf. flat. Close W/Common shopping. £45 pw ex. Tel: 01-377 9242 ext 306 (days).

W. BROMPTON young fun filled n/s to share lux. flat (own dbl room). Nr. 3 tubes. £400 pcm (incl). 01-576 4991.

W.DULWICH Lge o/r in CH spacious newly dec. well equipped flat. Garden, easy parking buses and BR. F n/s preferred, to share with one other £60 pw excl. Tel:01-761 4885 (eves).

WANDSWORTH 2 prof lodgers n/s to share hse with 2 bros nr East Putney tube £60 pw 01-870 5799 (eves).

WANTED Urgently - accommodation in Fulham/Parsons Green area, sharing all facilities with professional for 30 year old executive. £266 pcm. Tel 01-623 7363.

WEST HAMPSTEAD Prof N/S for large room. Share all amenities: phone, a/phone, video etc. Nr stn, shops. £260pcm inc. Tel 01 794 8789.

WEST KEN. Professional female non-smoker 26 - 30 yrs old to share lovely flat. Own fully furnished room. Close underground £60 pw plus bills Tel:01-386 8921 (after 6 pm or weekend).

WILLESDEN GREEN Own room in quiet interesting house GCH etc. Close Jubilee Line £200 pcm excl. Immediate let. Tel:01-451 2461 evenings.

RENTALS

NW1 - Regency crescent near Zoo. Light, modern 2 room flat. £150 pw. Tel: 01-722 9276.

PIMLICO, SW1. Superb newly dec bright lux studio flat. F/f kit, shwr rm. Close tube. Bargain! £110 pw. 381 4998 t

PIMLICO. Magnificent newly dec bright lux 3 bed maisonette. Lge f/f kit, close tube. Bargain! £220 pw. 381 4998 t

PIMLICO SW1 newly renovated furnished maisonette. 3 bedrooms. £240pw. Tel:931 7167 T.

PIMLICO SW1 1 bed flat excellent condition, minutes Victoria tube. £126 pw excl. Tel. 01-727 4720 evenings.

PUTNEY immac. 1st floor 1 dble, 1 single bed flat. Recep/diner, fitted kitchen, bath. GCH. Fully furnished and equipped. Parking. Tube 6 mins. Long let. £700 pm. 01-874 1366 after 2pm

PUTNEY. Fully furn superior 2 dble bedrooms s/c flat. Lnge/dining, fitd kit, tiled bathroom. Gas ch. Direct access gardens. £175 pw. Also available similar 1 bedroom flats from £125 pw. Warmark (03727) 41696

SERVICED APARTMENTS Chelsea, well sited restaurants, late night shopping. Furnished studio & 1 bed flats from £200pw Min one month. Letting Office, Nell Gwynn House, Sloane Ave, London, SW3. 01 884 8317 Telex 916568

ST JOHNS WOOD Beautiful 2 bedroomed first floor flat, overlooking gardens. Close to tube. £185.00 pw. 01 624 5102.

ST JOHNS WOOD. Furn flat 3 bedrms, reception, fkd kitchen/diner, all facilities, quiet Rd. Suit overseas family. £280 pw. (0454) 414329

SW1 Modern 2 bedroom flat, recep. Kit & Bath. Long Co Let. £225pw. Hunter & Co 01 268 1811

W1 - Windham Place. Large fully furnished, self contained studio, sep K.M.B., period property, min 6 mths. £165p/w. Tel:01 706 4061.

W2 immac, fully furn 1 bed flat, all mod cons. lift, o/looking square, nr N H Gate Stn. £160pw. Tel 01 749 8836.

WC1 - 2/3 bens, 1½ baths totally equipped mais period hse. CH. TV Secluded roof gdn, best offer Tel:01 589 6988.

WIMBLEDON. Lux furn 4 bed house, 2 baths, 3 wc, 2 receptions, kitchen/din.room Garage, lge garden. £350pw 01-946 7280 or 01-879 1729.

RENTALS

KATHINI GRAHAM LIMITED
UNFURNISHED/FURNISHED
Charming Chelsea house on 2 floors with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, 2 intercommunicating reception rooms, and fully fitted kitchen. Newly decorated in pretty, neutral colours. £475 p.w. Neg.
01 584 3285

ACCOMMODATION URGENTLY req for City institutions. Call us with your property to let Sebastian Estates 381 4998

ALLEN BATES & Co have a selection of flats to let short/long term from £160 pw 01 436 6666

ATTRACTIVE Studio flat Marble Arch. Newly furnished. Bargain £140pw. Tel: 222 8033 or 2167 or 373 1968.

BAKER STREET. Choice of luxury flats. Fully furn. ch & hw 1,2,3 & 4 beds. Short & long lets 258 1866 (T)

BARONS COURT W14. A selection of charming fully furn'd 1-4 bed apts from £150 pw incl. 01 876 1896 (T)

CENTRAL London WC1. 10 mins tube, buses & shopping area. Lux fully furnished 1 dble bedrm flat, fitted kit, bath, shower, washer/dryer, Telephone, television, intercom entrance, small verandah balcony. Suit Prof cple. £180 pw Tel: 01-604 7138

CHELSEA, SW3. Superb newly dec lux studio flat. Prime location close tube. Bargain! £130 pw inc. 381 4998 t

CHELSEA. Superb v well dec bright lux 1 dble bed edn flat. F/f kit, conservatory Must view £165 pw 381 4998 t

CLASSIC LETTINGS. Landlords we urgently require your properties & tenants phone for list 01 723 4046

DOCKLANDS. Magnificent 2 bed flat, balc. Swim/pool. Car pkng. Long Co let £190pw 01 268 1811 T

DON'T leave your property empty! Let it rapidly professionally through Quraishi Constantine 01 602 8737

EALING B'WAY choice of luxury 2 bed flats close tube £180-£200 pw The Property Place 01 900 2789

EARLS COURT SW5 Superb one bed flat in excellent condition, lge recep, kit & bathrm Clse tube lift & caretaker £170 pw Quraishi Constantine 01 602 8737

EARLSCOURT Spacious luxury flat, 2 dbl beds, 2 baths, f/f, w/m, 3 mins tube. £225pw. Tel. 01-370 0973 (anytime)

FULHAM Palace Road Quiet edn flat. Furn. dble bed, 5 mins tube, GCH. £150pw Avail. now - end '89. Tel: 01-381 3360.

FULHAM furnished 3 bed house, open outlook, easy parking, immaculate condition available now for 6-12 months 0390 266162

FULHAM SW6 Lovely 2 bed flat, newly converted, close to tube, must be seen. Avail now. £200pw Tel 01 602 6468

HAMMERSMITH W6 lux 1 bedrm flat, close tube. Long or short let. £200 pw. The Property Place 01 900 2789

HARLEY ST Comf furn flat, lge recep, dble bed, kit, bath, tel, TV. £175 pw. Suit Co. let, min 6 mths. 01-609 0601

HENRY & JAMES Contact us now on 01-235 8861 for the best selection of furnished flats and houses to rent in Knightsbridge, Chelsea and Kensington.

HIGHGATE Lge bedrm in lovely split level flat. CH, W Mach & drier, close to tube. Non smoker. £65 pw. 01 441 6644 Louise daytime. 340 2826 eves.

HOUSES/flats to let in London/Middx. 1/2 bed flats required in West London. 01 900 2969 (2 lines) Samra Props

HURLINGHAM SW6 Really superb 4 bed, 2 bath apartment, overlooking River Thames next to prestigious Hurlingham Club 24hr porterage & security Private parking & lift. Landscaped gardens. Close tube. Exc value £400 pw. Quraishi Constantine 01 602 8737

IMMACULATE FURNISHED flats avail in South Ken, Chelsea, Bloomsbury, W2. 01 907 1638 anytime T

ISLINGTON - 2 bed. maisonette. Fitted kitchen, bathroom, large sitting room. Nr Angel £175 p/w Tel 01 226 4698

ISLINGTON - Spacious, beautifully decorated 2 bedroomed flat with patio Suit 2-3 people. 5 mins Kings Cross. £175 pw. Tel: 01-607 7711 after 7pm.

KENSINGTON - 2 bedroom charming flat. 1 recep, kitchen, bath, GCH, 2 mins tube. £250 pw + bills. Tel:01 352 7410.

KENSINGTON Immaculate new one bedroom garden flat 6 months let. £200 pw. Tel: 01 748 9201

KENSINGTON & surrounding areas. Particularly good range of flats & houses at prices from around £180 - £1,600 pw Benham & Reeves 938 3822

KINGSTON - Superb newly decorated 2 bedroom luxury flat, adjacent to Richmond Park, fully fitted kitchen, strictly non smoking. £650 PCM. Tel:01 337 2470.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Newly renov'd, fully furn 1,2,3 bed lux flat in prime location for Long Co Let. £200 - £450. 585 0042

MAIDA VALE Nr tube, 2 bed furn flat, lux kit/bath. Long/short let. £245pw neg. Avialable now! Tel: 01 289 8606

MAYFAIR Hyde Park. The most luxurious long/short lets.1/6 beds, best prices. Globe Apartments 935 9512/ 2089.

MORE and more Landlords & Owners are using our fast efficient professional letting service. Contact us today. Quraishi Constantine 01 602 8737.

NEASDEN NW2 luxury 3 bedrm hse, newly decorated & furnished. £200 pw. The Property Place 01 900 2789.

NOTTING Hill Gate. Non smoker, for double room in large flat, near tube. £240 pcm inclusive. 01 727 8860 evenings.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

★ AFRICAN SPECIALISTS ★
Low cost fares to Africa, Asia, USA.
Australia plus many more
V. cheap travel insurance.
Access/Visa/Amex/Diners accepted.
AFRO ASIAN TRAVEL LTD
Suite 233, 162/168, Regent St. W1
TEL: 01-437 8255/6/7/8
Late & group bookings welcome

ABOVE-AVERAGE DISCOUNTS U T C 01 848 4662 Abta 84966 Cr cards

AFRICAN and South American seat specialists. Other long haul destinations available. Contact. World Travel Centre. 01-878-8146. ABTA (80193) IATA.

AIR TRAVEL ADVISORY Bureau 1 Call for the best flight deals worldwide. Tel 01 636 5000. Manchester 061 832 2000. Birmingham 021 783 2000

AMAZINGLY Cheap fares to USA, Canada, Aus/NZ, S. America, Far East, Middle East, Africa and Asia. 1 call save £££s. Jupiter 01-436 2711. Access/Visa.

BEST FARES. Best Flights. Best Holidays anywhere. Sky Travel. 01-609 2155. Or 01-834 7426. ABTA BONDED.

CHEAP FLIGHTS Worldwide. Haymarket Tvl. 01-930 1366.

CHEAP Flights worldwide. Save ££££'s. Call Bens Travel on 01-439 4181

CHEAP FLIGHTS France, Italy, Scand., Spain, Austria, Germany, Portugal Greece, worldwide - all classes. 01-505 2283/01-936 5288. Bob Warren Travel Services. Atol 1817.

COSTCUTTERS on flights and hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Free insurance on all holidays. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd: 01-730 2201. ABTA 26703 IATA ATOL 1355.

CYPRUS/EGYPT Paphos Beach plus Egyptian classical tour. 2 wks fr £724. Tel: Winglet Travel 0920 871720.

DISCOUNTED Air Tickets. 01-388 4041.

FRANKFURT £65 rtn. Dusseldorf £71 rtn. Nairobi £420 rtn. D'Salaam £550 rtn. Flights to Jo'burgh. Bestways 01-930 1992. IATA

GREECE Peloponnese near Monemvasia, villa by sea, sleeps 8/10. £160pw. Fenton 0723 85816.

HOLIDAYS & Flights. Cyprus, Corfu, Malta, Morocco, Greece, Malaga, Tenerife. Pan World Greekorama Travel Tourism Ltd 01 734 2562. Atol 1438 Abta 32980

LATIN AMERICA. Low cost flights e.g. Rio £615. Lima £485 rtn low season. Also Small Group Tours. JLA 01 747-3108 ABTA 86321 Fully Bonded

LOW Fares Worldwide USA, N/S America, Far East, Africa. Airline Apr'd Agt Trayvale, 48 Margaret Street, W1: 01 580 2928 (Visa Accept).

NEW YORK £199. Jo'burg £490. Toronto £199. San Fran £269. Tokyo £580, Perth £669. Bangkok £319. H'Kong £455, Singapore £410. Frankfurt £69. (0634) 812036. ABTA 38739.

SICILY Summer 1989 Hotels & pensiones in Taormina, Cefalu & Lipari; Grand Tour: A la Carte; Self-Catering; Two Centres; Budget Fares. Seven direct flights a week from Gatwick & Manchester. No-one knows Sicily better ISLAND SUN LTD 0293 - 547300 (Northern Office: 0767-59098) ABTA/AITO/ATOL 1907

TAKE Time Off to Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Bruges, Geneva, Berne, Lausanne, Zurich, Lucerne, Madrid, The Hague, Maastricht, Milan, Venice, Rome, Florence, Dublin, Cork. Time Off, 2a, Chester Close, London, SW1X 7BQ. 01 235 8070 ABTA 58574

TUNISIA For the finest and best located holidays in Hammamet, Sousse, Jerba and elsewhere Call Tunisian Hotel Assoc - 01 373 4411.

U.S.A/CANADA Low cost flights. Car hire/hotels. Vista Travel (0444) 415011. ABTA 95195.

WHEN BOOKING Air Charter based travel you are strongly advised to obtain the name and ATOL number of the Tour Operator with whom you will contract. You should ensure that the confirmation advice carries this information. If you have any doubts check with the ATOL Section of the Civil Aviation Authority on 01-832 5620

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

"IT'S ALL AT" TRAILFINDERS
Worldwide low cost flights
The best - and we can prove it 300,000 clients since 1970
CURRENT BEST BUYS
Around the World from £672

	o/w	rtn
SYDNEY/MELBOURNE	£426	£673
PERTH	£400	£600
AUCKLAND	£461	£792
BANGKOK	£240	£426
HONG KONG	£248	£496
SINGAPORE	£278	£506
BALI	£297	£581
TOKYO	£341	£629
DELHI/BOMBAY	£232	£376
KATHMANDU	£319	£543
BEIJING	£332	£632
CAIRO	£168	£297
NAIROBI	£248	£386
JO'BURG	£276	£636
LIMA	£266	£539
LOS ANGELES	£179	£309
NEW YORK	£ 99	£199
BOSTON	£176	£299
MIAMI	£149	£199

TRAILFINDERS
42-48 Earls Court Rd London W8 6EJ
OPEN 9-6 MON-SAT 10-2 SUN
Longhaul Flights 01 938 3366
USA/Europe Flights 01 937 5400
1st and Business Class 01 938 3444
Government Licensed/Bonded
ATOL 1458 IATA ABTA 69701

1ST CLASS CLUB CLASS
For the best deals
Please contact the experts
SUNWORLD TRAVEL
(Established 1969)
Sunworld House
26 West Street
Epsom, Surrey
(03727) 27838/26530/24832
"The Agents For Top People"
U K issued tickets

CANADA & USA
Rest of the World
BEST DISCOUNT FARES
Scheduled Charter
01 656 1101
ALGARVE, LISBON & N. PORTUGAL
Flights, Villas, Apartments Tours
'89 Brochure now out
01 656 6545
Longmere Intl Ltd ABTA 73196

THAILAND Luxury furnished houses to rent in Pattaya, also flights. Tel. 0969 34068 for details. Simon

WINTER SPORTS

FANTASTIC ALPINE FUN!! JAN BARGAINS
14 Jan 1 wk £159
21 Jan 1 wk £169
Catered chalets inc flights
Fun for singles, couples & groups!
SKIWHIZZ
0284 750505 (24hrs)
Open till 7pm
ATOL 2283

1 IN 4 FREE Argentiere few Jan bargain hols left. Catered Chalets, superb skiing. Call Now 0703 269668/0526 20632

ALPINE SKI Bargains and late availability Chalets Hotels and flats. Phone (0422) 310080

CATERED Chalets, top resorts, flexible dep dates, Jan 14, Jan 21 £179 inc flight. Susie Ward Travel. 01 486 6648

COURCHEVAL Ski Bonne Neige Jan 14 & 21 bargains only £169 catered chalets incl flights 0284 750505 ATOL 2283

LA CLUSAZ - Ski Chalet S/C apt Res staff Jan discounts Available now (0242) 602124 / 602770 (eves)

MERIBEL Fully catered chalet holidays Any size of group January departures £50 reduction February availability Ski Bel Air 0924 457672

SKI BARGAINS in traditional resorts in Stuben, La Clusaz Les Gets Chalet Ski Total 01 948 6922 ATOL 2271

SKI BEACH VILLAS - January bargains Staffed chalets in top resorts from £149 pp air/chalet/meals incl Self-catering from £109 pp. Ring Ski Beach Villas (0223) 360777 (24hrs). Atol Abta. Access/Visa welcome.

SKI COLORADO glorious snow and wonderful powder now in Vail, Aspen Breckenridge. Tel 01 388 8586.

SKIING??? Late availability - Chalets, hotels and apartments with Blason Lines Brochure/reservations (0422) 78121.

SKI VAL D'ISERE "Ultimate in luxury". Centrally located chalet ideal for 6, sauna, jacuzzi, games room and lots more. Call Ski Val. 01 903 4444 or 200 6080 (24 hrs) ABTA/ATOL.

SKI VAL D'ISERE, Tignes and Meribel. Jan avail from only £199 P.P. Catered Club - chalet holidays. Also self-catering appts from only £149 P.P. Call Ski Val: 01-903 4444, or 200 6080 (24 hrs) ABTA/ATOL.

WEEKEND SKIING & Tailor-Made Hols. 2 to 10 days. Freedom Holidays 01 741 4686 (ABTA 97006)

WE HAVE SNOW! January specials in Champery. Telephone Ski Scott Dunn 01-602 8029.

U.K. HOLIDAYS

INSTANT serviced flat, London Kensington from only £350 p w + V A T Ring Town House Apts. (01) 373 3433.

SUPER SECRETARIES

SECRETARIES for Architects & Designers Permanent & temporary positions. AMSA Specialist Recruitment Consultants. 01 734 0532

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

AU PAIR Required to take care of a 20 month old girl 4 days / week during February to June Location South of Gothenburg by the sea. Contact 8 Aspas, (address) P L 7261 43900 ONSALA Sweden. Tel: 010 46 300 29708.

DORKING Can anyone recommend a reliable married couple or two ladies experienced in private service for cooking and house keeping for two elderly persons. Private service refs essential. Reply to BOX C35 .

GOOD Cook needed in Courcheval with Le Ski. Sense of humour preferred. Tel: Liz on 0484-548996 for details.

HOUSEKEEPER req for Hampshire country resident. neg sal + cottage & stables. must driver. fond of children and animals. own horse welcomed. Tel: The Freelance Service. (0609) 418033

LIVE IN Cook/ housekeeper urgently req for small family in Eaton Square. Excellent accomm. Salary £160 pw. Tel: Miss Julia Eaton, Belgravia Bureau 01- 584 4047 or 01-386 8699 (eves).

LIVE IN Cook/ housekeeper for lovely position in Paris for one kindly gentleman. Own S/C accomm. Salary £130+ pw. Tel: Miss Julia Eaton, Belgravia Bureau 01-584 4047.

LIVE IN Cook/ housekeeper urgently req for business man in Central London. Responsible position Salary £150 pw. Tel: Miss Julia Eaton, Belgravia Bureau 01-584 4047.

YOUNG hard working person required to carry out "The Butler with a difference" job in family country house doing corporate business. Other young staff employed. Own large bedroom & bathroom, TV & car. References. Tel. Ringwood, Hampshire (0425) 473621.

COMPANY NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the next Ordinary Meeting of Proprietors of the Company will be held at 20 Upper Ground, London SE1 9PF, on Monday 13th February 1989, at 12 15 o'clock in the afternoon for the general purposes of business and for the election of an Auditor in place of one Auditor retiring by rotation.
The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 27th January 1989 to 4th February 1989 inclusive.
T.G. Dick - Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICES

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY
Notice is given that COURTS OF GOVERNORS of this Corporation, if required, will be held at 2.25p.m. on the following Wednesdays in 1989 January 18th, April 19th and October 18th at the General Council of British Shipping, 30/32 St. Mary Axe E.C.3 and July 19th at Springbok-Radcliffe Aspord, Sussex.
J Allan, Secretary
29 King William Walk, SE10

H.M. LAND REGISTRY
LOST CERTIFICATE(S)
It is proposed to issue new Certificate(s) to replace those described below that are stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate(s) or objecting to the issue of new one(s) should at once notify Telford District Land Registry, Units A1-A3 Stafford Park 15, Telford TF3 3BB. Freehold and Leasehold Title No's: LN236412 and LN130911, 178 Bedford Hill, Wandsworth, London SW12. Proprietor - Manmoud Hassan El Ghoneim.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: National Charity
The Kora Wildlife Preservation Trust
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this Charity. Copies can be obtained from them at St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX (ref: 279698-A/1-LA).

LEGAL NOTICES

COMPANIES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1986
A creditors' petition for winding-up of Colin J. Broon & Co Limited, Registered Office at Devonshire House, 146 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4JX, will be heard at the Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street, Belfast, on Thursday 26 January 1989 at 2.00 pm. Particulars available from H A Mason, Crown Solicitor, Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street, Belfast

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NO 008820 OF 1988
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
CSL CORPORATION PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 12th December 1988 confirming the cancellation of the amount of £1 989 090 standing to the credit of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 20th December 1988
Dated this 10th day of January 1989
Booth & Co., of Sovereign House
South Parade Leeds LS1 1HQ Ref : PJC
Solicitors for the above named Company

RCL DESIGN PORT LTD
AND
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Uplands House, Blackhorse Lane, London, E17 5QW, on Friday the 20th January 1989 at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 128 Whitechapel Road, London E1, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm as from Wednesday the 18th January 1989
Dated this 6th day of January 1989
Moniruzzaman Khan - Director

Company number: 129116 Nature of business: Fibre Optics. Type of liquidation: Members. Address of registered office: Doncastle House, Doncastle Road, Bracknell Berks. Liquidators name and address Martin Fishman, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT. Office holder no 6470 Date of appointment 21 December 1988 By whom appointed: Members. Date 30 12 88
M Fishman, Liquidator

Company number 810360 Nature of business: Electronics Type of liquidation: Members. Address of registered office: Doncastle House, Doncastle Road, Bracknell Berks. Liquidators name and address Martin Fishman, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT. Office holder no: 6470 Date of appointment 21 December 1988 By whom appointed. Members. Date 30 12 88
M Fishman, Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF
THE WHITE LINE PUBLISHING CO LTD
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE
INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of The White Line Publishing Co Ltd will be held at The Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London EC2 on Tuesday the 24th day of January 1989 at 11.00 in the forenoon for the purposes provided for in Sections 99, 100 and 101.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proofs of debt and proxies at the offices of Hacker Young & Partners, 4th Floor, St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DH no later than 12 noon on 23 February 1989.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Hacker Young & Partners, 4th Floor, St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DH (reference VG/AA) on the 20th and 23rd day of January 1989.
Dated the 4th day of January 1989
By Order of the Board
A R McNeilage - Director

In the matter of:-
EG & G INSTRUMENTS LTD AND BROOKDEAL ELECTRONICS LTD
(Both in Members Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Numbers 810360 and 129116
Notice to Creditors of EG & G Instruments Ltd and Brookdeal Electronics Ltd
On 21 December 1988 the above named companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen & Co., PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street London WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against either company to the Liquidator, at the above address, by 28 February 1989
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 1 April 1989 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 28 February 1989 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors
Both companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.
Dated 30 December 1988
M Fishman

LEGEND COMPUTER SERVICES LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)
Registered number: 1722277. Name of Administrative Receivers: R Hocking, P R Copp. Address: Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA. Date of appointment: 23 December 1988. Appointor: Barclays Bank plc. Nature and date of instrument conferring power to appoint: Fixed and floating charge dated 31 October 1985.
Signed this 3rd day of January 1989
P R Copp
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106 (1)
FILMSCREEN PRODUCTIONS LIMITED IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr Peter Richard Copp, Chartered Accountant of Messrs Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 30th January 1988. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts, writing to me for a claim form. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 1st day of December 1988
P R Copp Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106 (1)
FILMSCREEN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr Peter Richard Copp, Chartered Accountant of Messrs Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 30th November 1988. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts, writing to me for a claim form. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 1st day of December 1988
P R Copp Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106 (1)
BULLDANCE PRODUCTIONS LIMITED IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr Peter Richard Copp, Chartered Accountant of Messrs Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 30th November 1988. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts, writing to me for a claim form. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 1st day of December 1988
P R Copp - Liquidator

BIRCH COOKMAN & WINCH LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace (2nd Floor) London W2 6LF, on Monday the 23rd day of January 1989 at 12 o'clock for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. Keith D Goodman, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Leonard Curtis & Co., whose address is above, will provide the creditors free of charge with such information as to the Company's affairs as the creditors may reasonably require until the the 20th January 1989.
Dated the 6th day of January 1989
M Birch - Director

IN THE MATTER OF UNIRISE LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 5th January 1989.
Dated this 5th day of January 1989
Peter S Dunn Liquidator
Leonard Curtis & Co
Chartered Accountants
PO Box 553
30 Eastbourne Terrace
London W2 6LF

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AND IN THE MATTER OF
ULTMAR LIMITED
Registered Office: 33/34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW.
Principal Trading Address: 14-15 East Street, Chichester, Sussex PO19 1HE.
Company No: 1783878
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above Company will be held at the offices of Touche Ross & Co., 33/34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW on the 20th day of January 1989, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986, i.e.:-
1. To consider the Directors' Statement of Affairs.
2. To appoint a Liquidator.
3. To appoint a Liquidation Committee.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must (unless they are individual creditors attending in person or otherwise not required to submit a proxy) lodge their proxies at the offices of Touche Ross & Co., 33/34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW, no later than 12 noon on 26th January 1989. Creditors must submit a proof of debt before voting. Unless they surrender their security, secured creditors must give particulars of their security and its value.
The following insolvency practitioner will provide creditors free of charge with information concerning the company's affairs: Christopher Morris, Touche Ross & Co., 33/34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW (Telephone: 01 405 8799; please ask for M Slater extension 332).
Dated this 10th day of January 1989
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
John D Croft FCA - Director

Dosso Dossi fetches $4m

SALEROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

...ing which entered the ...cet strapped to the roof ...knowing owner's jeep, ...a record of $4 million ...illion) for the 16th ... Ferrarese painter, Dossi at Christie's in ...rk on Wednesday.

...legory showing a nude ...d woman before a dark ...und, it was bought for ... its estimate by the ... dealers, Hazlitt, ... & Fox.

...s sold by a private ...an who had no idea of ...e", said Christie's ex-...n Kennedy, describing ...when the owner stag-...n with the painting - ...measures 70 by 85 ... - he was given a very ...timate by a general ... "But when I saw it I ...t 'My God, it's a Dosso ..."

...ough the exact subject ...is a mystery, the paint-...thought to reflect on the ...g and uncertain nature ...uman existance. The ...n holds a cornucopia, ...ionally associated with abundance, and is seated on either a glass ball or soap bubble, both of which evoke thoughts of transience. The male figure waves what appear to be strips of paper, and the current theory is that they are lottery tickets, demonstrating that life is a matter of chance.

The painting came from the collection of Count Antonio Litta of Milan, who had among his treasures a Madonna by Leonardo da Vinci. The purchase was something of a double-buy, as X-ray photographs have revealed a landscape composition underneath.

There were a number of casualties at the sale - 60 out of 152 pictures remained unsold - but it was still a record total for a single session auction of Old Master paintings in America.

"I think Old Masters are going to become more like the Impressionists in price over the next five years", said Mr Kennedy. "This is just a foretaste of what is to come".

The next highest price was a tenth of that for the Dossi, being £296,600 (four times estimate) paid by a Swedish dealer for "Portrait of a bearded man" by Sir Peter Paul Rubens. Anonymous members of the London trade paid the same price for the highly animated "Laughing Children with a cat" by Judith Leyster. It was a record for this pupil of Frans Hals.

Raymond Chandler sprung two surprises at Bloomsbury Book Auctions in London, when two first editions by him fetched five and ten times their estimates. The first was a 1943 first edition of *The Lady in the Lake* complete with an inscription from the author, which fetched £1,815 while his *The High Window* of 1942 sold for £1,045. Both went to the dealer Sims Reed.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone. For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00 pm, or between 9 am and 1.00 pm on Saturday for Monday's paper
Please telephone 01 481 4000

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Perrault, writer and collector of folk tales, Paris, 1628.

DEATHS: Edmund Spenser, poet, London, 1599; George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, London, 1674; Stephen Collins Foster, song writer, New York, 1864; James Joyce, novelist and poet, Zurich, 1941; Hubert Humphrey, vice-president of the USA 1965-69, Waverley, Minnesota, 1978.

The Independent Labour Party was formed, 1893.

Latest wills

Sir Edward George Warris Hulton, of Westminster, founder of *Picture Post*, left estate valued at £938,889 net.

Mr David Reid Williams, of Hampton, Middlesex, left estate valued at £8,906,924 net. He left his estate mostly to relatives.

Mr Stanley Preston, of St Saviour, Jersey, left estate in the United Kingdom valued at £1,064,039. He died intestate.

Sir Helenus Patrick Joseph Milmo, of West Chiltington, West Sussex, High Court judge, left estate valued at £245,699

THE ARTS

Monuments to myself

Adrian Dannatt discovers that Italian writer Aldo Busi prizes his independence above all

Aldo Busi's entry in a best-selling guide to Italian cult heroes is full of such quotes as: "A faggot with a hobby of novel-writing." They come from a wide variety of critics, unified only in their denigration of the author. Set next to such abuse are Busi's own words, which perhaps partly explain the attacks: "Why should I want to be Flaubert, when I have the chance to be Aldo Busi?"

Busi's appearance in such a modish volume, right next to the entry for Boy George, is all too appropriate. In Italy he is more notorious as a public hate-figure than famous as the serious novelist he undoubtedly is. At 40, Busi is the unchallenged star of new Italian writing, the young contender for the hallowed status of Moravia or Levi. His work is hailed as the advance guard of a revolutionary literature. Since the publication of *Seminar on Youth*, in 1984, he has produced three further novels, each more outrageous than the last, yet each more loudly applauded by the important critics, culminating with *Sodomie In Corpo II*, which has been accused simultaneously of pornography and genius. He also enjoys considerable status outside his native country, with translation and acclamation everywhere.

Indeed, at his modest apartment in Brescia, a town close to Milan and only a few kilometres from the Montichiari countryside where he was born, he keeps a separate flat just for translators to stay and work with him. "Those who attack me in Italy only make themselves ridiculous. In other countries I am appreciated for my style, not abused for it. Especially in England."

Seminar on Youth was published in Britain by Carcanet, but now Busi has been taken up by Faber, who are pushing him forward as one of their sexy accessible Europeans, with all the post-modern chic of a Kundera. They are giving him the full treatment for the publication of his latest novel, *The Standard Life of a Temporary Pantyhose Salesman*. Like all his work, this is highly autobiographical: 430 pages of dense type, detailing the picaresque adventures of a gay intellectual sucked into the corrupt, compulsive world of an archetypal small-business tycoon.

A highly moral, if not political, tale, it is rendered in rich, poetic, and undeniably difficult prose, yet it also has a compelling narrative grip, Busi deliberately teasing the reader with his story-telling talents. It is easy to understand why he was welcomed in America as a "gay polyglot Dickens".

Yet trouble comes to Busi as easily as plaudits. Raymond Rosenthal, America's foremost Italian translator, spent two years on this vast book, only to denounce it as anti-Semitic, and he refused to allow it to be published unless certain passages were out. The accusation was misguided, and shows how Swiftian satire can still be misinterpreted. Busi's work is rich in such difficulties, not only because of its autobiographical nature, but also because of the unbelievably scandalous life that he has led.

A peasant, who spoke only Brescia-dialect until the age of 18, who worked in Milan, Paris, London and New York as prostitute, dish-washer, waiter, cleaner and go-go dancer, who starved, froze and sold himself in the cities of the world, he is a writer with five foreign languages, translator of some of the most complex authors, from Goethe and Lewis Carroll to Flaubert, with an impressive body of his own work.

Busi wrote his university thesis on the modern American poet John Ashbery, and has translated his work. He also worked as Ashbery's "char" in New York; this combination of scholasticism and manual drudgery is the essential dichotomy of Busi's life.

There is also the question of his promiscuity, for which he makes quite staggering claims. By his own account, he has has sexual encounters with more than 8,500 of his fellow men. "In the Sixties," he elaborates, "I was travelling a great deal. I didn't want to go to art galleries or museums, only to bed. I wasn't doing anything special – times were like that. Now society has completely changed."

On his last visit to London, Busi was arrested in the public lavatory at Piccadilly Circus. He was, he insists, trying to establish the truth of claims that the police use *agents provocateurs* to entrap homosexuals. Eventually the charges against him were dropped, but he retains little regard for the city: "For me, London represents the pure exploitation of mankind."

The exploitations and unthinking cruelties of capitalism are a theme of his work, a perpetual reminder, via his own experiences, of the suffering that it is too easy to ignore. His books, however, are far from the Marxist tradition of post-war Italian literature. Full of the ironies and cynicism of cosmopolitan youth, they have the cool insolence of a more vicious Martin Amis.

Part of Busi's problem in Italy, other than his strident homosexuality and equally forceful egotism, is his utter independence in a country where writers are expected to pledge their allegiance to a patron or political party.

"A writer has everything to lose by being linked to anyone else," he says. "I refused to shake the hand of the new Prime Minister at a reception, because I didn't know enough about him. I certainly have nothing to do with other writers – I have no more in common with them than with someone who happens to be homosexual."

Naturally, Busi also dismisses the notion of being categorizable as a gay writer. "To me, the word homosexual is a ghetto. I certainly don't believe in sexual freedom. Once it's free, it's no longer sex. Sex is made up from taboos, from guilt, from dark feelings. How can you make claim to the freedom of ghosts? Homosexuality is not a topic. I just happen to write about what I know."

Writing about what he knows, however, has its drawbacks. His sister's husband read *Seminar on Youth* and recognized his own brother in the character of a renegade gay priest. Busi's sister and brother-in-law offered the publisher a large sum of money to pulp the book.

The original of Lometto, the grotesque businessman of *Standard Life*, reacted differently. "Rich people only read cheques," Busi says, "but people began to mention the book to him. He and his wife probably originally wanted to send me a hit man, but now they are incredibly proud of it, they send copies of the book to everyone. They are not capable of shame."

It is probably just as well that Busi's mother is illiterate – "a thorough aristocrat of the countryside; I'm very proud of her". His descriptions of the squalor of a peasant childhood would be unlikely to kindle parental pride. "I am very happy my father died, otherwise I would definitely have had to kill him."

Death and decay are very much part of his exaggerated, scabrous satire. "I haven't got Aids yet, but one must never lose hope. I have already gone to book my hospital room. Who cares about dying? I'd only be annoyed because of all my promise."

With all his previous books forthcoming in English translation, with his translation of *Alice in Wonderland* just published to acclaim, a version of *The Decameron* and a volume of travel-writings about to appear, Busi's energies are devoted to *Casanova di se Stessi* (Casanova of Oneself), the *chef d'oeuvre* on which he has been working since 1985.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the frequent attacks on him in the media, Busi is a best-seller, shifting more than 40,000 copies of each book. "Whatever they say, I represent the only new writer in Italy. I have got a limit of five novels – I think I have the energy to produce just those few unique new works. After that I will become a writer's widow, going round the world collecting prizes, putting up monuments to myself. There are so many more important things to do than being a writer."

● The Standard Life of a Temporary Pantyhose Salesman *is published this week by Faber, price £12.95*



His own man: Aldo Busi refuses alliances and rejects categorization of every kind

TELEVISION

De-briefed encounter

George III was once mugged in the grounds of Kensington Palace, and it is almost certain that his assailant had no idea of the victim's identity. The present monarch may be the only person in the realm never to carry her portraits in her purse, but these days the chances of haphazard *lèse-majesté* are largely reduced by idolatrous respect.

The oddly normal citizens who told their stories in *40 Minutes* (BBC2) had all been touched by the quasi-mystical experience of meeting the Queen, or at least of being in the same room, or street, or garden as her. Perhaps some of the air they breathed had momentarily been recycled in the reginal lungs. The paradox is that since she makes a point of meeting countless of her subjects, to have met her is infinitely more common than to have met, say, my dentist.

These recollections, stitched together with an eye to the absurd, confirmed that public encounters with the Queen are moments of high banality, turning adults into children and generating instant hints on etiquette, which are then woven into the myth of the recipient's life. She is not simply interested in how long one has been a real person, she is the leading expert on the art of asking one. It is all an elaborate practical joke with no pay-off. Who is patronizing whom?

The half-loyal subjects of *True Stories* (Channel 4) were those encountered by one Ross McElwee in the course of retracing General Sherman's genocidal march through the Southern states at the close of the American Civil War. In the event, he kept getting sidetracked by nubile girls demonstrating anti-cellulite exercises *sans* panties, and fundamentalist Armageddon artists talking tough in the woods.

Wearing his camera like a third eye, and using it as both notebook and conversation piece, McElwee was a self-absorbed tourist asking impertinent questions. So seamlessly did he insert himself into the world he recorded that it was hard to believe in him as a separate entity, and harder yet to determine precisely where his tongue met his cheek.

Martin Cropper

Expressions of strain

DONALD COOPER

THEATRE

Anything for a Quiet Life
Almeida

This "Crazy Office" show brings Théâtre de Complicité's three months' season at the Almeida to a close, a success with audiences and many critics, though not with me. *The Visit*, which I did not see, has been particularly admired and sets off soon on a nationwide tour.

The shows I covered were the first, to do with death, and now this, apparently intended to strip the surface off office life; but beyond the agile acrobatics and grimacing I find an emptiness at the heart of Complicité's work, so that when the audience claps its approval I sit with an expression on my face like Old Mother Misery muttering, "So what".

Too few theatre pieces interest themselves in the hazards of office life, a dangerous place part family part jungle, where ambition, resentment and all manner of unruly emotions are strait-jacketed within careful rituals and customs.

The art of Complicité is to express those unspoken feelings – which mostly turn out to be feelings of embarrassment – through extreme physical reactions. Arms swing like flails; jaws sag in horror; figures retreat in panic behind cupboards. But when all the office workers behave like this, when every character is incompetent as well as eccentric, one longs for some expression of real fear or heartache.

Within the pattern of arrival, conference, crisis, party there is little logic to the succession of scenes. Behaviour is bizarre from the start: not a table is moved but it crushes someone's toe; not a door shut and it traps a hand, nor opened but it blacks an eye.

The angular shapes the bodies take up express emotion true enough, and make one realize expressionism is rightly so-called, but, as in that artistic style, the progress can only be to greater extremes. The office building begins to disintegrate; Celia Gore Booth, the splendidly shapeless cleaning lady, stalks on to announce: "The boiler has imploded."

Everyone becomes progressively more damaged and *déshabillé*, save for the tiny and monkey-faced mother of one of the workers, present for no fathomable reason, and played by Annabel Arden (or possibly Kathryn Hunter – the programme is unclear), who remains unfazed by the gathering crisis, concerned only to finish her raspberry cream sandwich and discover the toilet.

There are synchronized movements of great skill and occasional beauty, but the only time the show comes up with a cue for anguish is when Marcello Magni, the lugubrious baldie, is fired. For one instant his face blanks out, a mask of terror, but then the jumping and gibbering sweeps in from somewhere and the moment is gone.

As for credibly representing office life, the plastic cups are plentiful but there is not a computer screen in sight.

Jeremy Kingston



Grimaces: Boris Ostan (top), Stefan Metz (centre), Myra McFadyen

United in good cause

An Evening for Armenia
Covent Garden

GALA BENEFIT

The recent Barbican concert for Armenia did not exhaust the goodwill of British musicians and performers. On Wednesday it was the turn of the orchestra, conductors, dancers, singers and other staff of Covent Garden, joined by others from the Soviet Union. Princess Margaret and many others lent support and Channel 4 relayed the show complete, later in the evening.

Because of their different stage requirements, ballet and opera had to be segregated. But it was a rare opportunity to see all three Royal Opera House companies on stage in one evening, and in the ballet half the two Royal Ballet companies (fielding Natalia Makarova as their star, reunited for one last time with Anthony Dowell in a duet from *Manon*), danced alternately with Kirov and Bolshoi dancers.

In fact, things got closer than that, because Irek Mukhamedov's last minute inability to travel from Moscow to London left Nina Ananiashvili without a partner for *Don Quixote* and the Royal Ballet's young soloist Errol Pickford bravely took over, dancing with gusto as well as courage.

There was some classy dancing from both home and visiting teams, but except for that unexpected partership and the *Swan Lake* duet beautifully given by Galina Mezentseva and Konstantin Zaklinsky, none of the items was entirely unfamiliar here.

Similarly with such Royal Opera favourites as June Anderson, Thomas Allen and Carol Vaness, in solos from *Traviata* and *Tosca*. But Kathryn Harries made her house début a month early, replacing the ailing Josephine Barstow in the finale from *Fidelio*, conducted by Haitink for the first time here.

There were some unfamiliar voices from Russia. Varseg Tumanyan, from Yerevan, showed power in the evening's one rarity, Attila's aria from Act I of Verdi's opera of that name. Alexei Steblianko from the Kirov revealed an impressive dark tenor in "E lucevan' le stelle"; his colleagues, Lyubov Kazarnovskaya and Sergei Leiferkus repeated their 1987 success in the last duet from *Eugene Onegin*. Another Armenian, Maria Gulegina, and two young sopranos, Lyubov Sharmina and Natalia Datzko, in extracts from *Forza*, *Aida* and *Mefistofele*, all made attractive débuts.

Many others deserve credit, not least the orchestra (on stage for the second half), but it was an occasion as a whole that impressed most and the generosity of all participants. Contributions can still be made today, by phone to 01-200 0088.

John Percival

Oboe triumphs in extremis

PLG Young Artists
Purcell Room

CONCERTS

In the first of Wednesday night's two Park Lane Group concerts in the Purcell Room, the Barbican Piano Trio offered scintillating performances of works by Hugh Wood and Charles Ives.

Wood's piece opened with grand rhetorical gestures juxtaposed with passionately lyrical statements, both providing opportunities for expressive immediacy that were eagerly seized. The second movement of the Ives, entitled "This Scherzo is a Joke", is a typically anarchic Ivesian medley of popular songs, and the Barbican trio captured its spirit with great good humour and technical assurance.

The second concert was given by the oboist Nicholas Harcourt-Smith and the harpist Hugh Webb, joining forces for André Jolivet's "Controversia", but otherwise playing on their own or with tape. In Javier Alvarez's "Acuerdos pur diferencia" (a PLG Commission) Webb and his electronic harp were accompanied by a tape consisting of harp, lute and *vihuela* sounds, that supplied an imaginative and rhythmically exciting backdrop to the live discourse. His command of half-colours and acute sense of timing stood him in good stead both here and in pieces by Petrassi and Donatoni.

Jonty Harrison's "A Vent", lacking the clear motivation of the Alvarez, was frankly monotonous. But by then Harcourt-Smith had already stolen the show, first with his account of Britten's "Six Metamorphoses after Ovid", in which he uncannily conjured up the remote legendary Ethos, and more dramatically with Heinz Holliger's "Cardiofonie". For this piece his heart beat was electronically amplified and induced to accelerate by the somewhat unconventional demands made on the player.

After much virtuoso sucking and blowing (frequently of raspberries), Harcourt-Smith spectacularly and alarmingly expired, bringing an inspired piece of music theatre to its conclusion.

Barry Millington

Anything but dry 'bone

Last summer, when the city of Darmstadt staged a fascinating exhibition on the history of jazz, Albert Mangelsdorff was an inevitable choice as one of the featured performers at the evening concerts.

My abiding memory is of the trombonist cajoling his audience into chanting a mantra-like drone as a pedal note to his one-man improvisation. The dour avant-garde was at last putting on a smiling face.

There was no audience participation in the opening set of his solo residency at the Bass Clef, but a spirit of irreverence was never far from the surface. The mood was summed up in "Mississippi Mud on My Shoes", a bizarre exercise which, with the help of a mute, conjured up a soundscape of blues, paddle-steamers and even harmonicas.

Through his use of multiphonics and vocalizing, Mangelsdorff extracts chord-like sounds from a notoriously unwieldy instrument. Unlike many Free-influenced players, he also employs a steady pulse which allows the listener some grasp of the overall structure. But whether this sort of recital can ever be as rewarding as his work with, say, the United Jazz And Rock Ensemble, has to be a matter of doubt.

JAZZ

Albert Mangelsdorff Peter Ind/Ian Carr
Bass Clef

To precede his set with a bass and trumpet duet might have seemed a foolhardy idea. However, the performance of standards by club-owner Peter Ind and Ian Carr turned out to be unalloyed pleasure, the players' invention only rarely flagging.

Carr, who has just released the lyrical MMC album *Old Heartland*, seems on better form than ever. In his gentle Miles Davis mode, he chipped in some glowing muted choruses on "Lover Man" and a generous serving of half-valves on "Stella by Starlight". With his bright tone sounding like Davis circa 1954, "Bag's Groove" was the only way to finish.

Clive Davis

Accent on youthfulness

Schubertiade
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hermann Prey left the platform to younger Schubertians for the third of his intelligently constructed *Schubertiades*, and appropriately featured the music of the teenage composer. What Schubert wrote when he was 15 or 16 – and studying quite fruitfully with the man who supposedly resented young geniuses, Antonio Salieri – yields few pointers to his later sublimity, but says much about his natural melodic gift.

The two jolly movements of the Wind Octet in F, D72, for instance, dance along with unpretentious grace (especially in this pert performance by London Winds) without saying anything particularly witty or original. Schubert in 1813 seems rather like a superbly-crafted, newly-commissioned yacht, waiting only for wind to fill the sails.

Appropriately, the great Octet in F, D803, was at hand to demonstrate how far he voyaged in the next 10 years. Even in this well-organized but not especially intense performance (by the Britten String Quartet with clarinetist Michael Collins, bassoonist Robin O'Neill, Richard Watkins on horn and Duncan McTier on double bass), the emotional command of the finale's *tremolando* opening, or the ambitious inventiveness of the Variations movement, seemed to leave the charming classicism of Schubert's juvenilia a million nautical miles away.

Before that came some youthful songs, including the three "Italian arias": Metastasio settings which were presumably written as exercises for Signor Salieri's tutorials. Though they are pretty enough, these and "Verklärung" (with its strange neo-Bachian recitatives) are hardly recognizable as Schubert. There is more character in the sadly languid lines of "Klaglied", and much more wit in "Totengräberlied": a lugubrious description of a gravedigger's lifestyle, saucily set to a tune that bounces along like a hornpipe.

The soprano Patricia Rozario and the baritone James Meek did these songs full justice; a neat accompanist, Iain Burnside, could have been less self-effacing.

Richard Morrison

WAR REQUIEM
A FILM WITH MUSIC
"Jarman's finest achievement"
Philip French, THE OBSERVER
"The images of war Jarman creates are unavoidably beautiful"
Nigella Lawson, SUNDAY TIMES
NOW SHOWING CANNON SHAFTESBURY AVENUE 836 6279

See Front Page
Why Are You Shamed By Your Mistakes In English?
WHAT THIS FREE BOOK WILL SHOW YOU!
How to stop making embarrassing mistakes in English!
How to become a fluent conversationalist and effective public speaker!
How to increase your word power!
How to read faster – better!
How to put punch into your writing!
How to pass English exams!
How to develop self-confidence!
To Practical English Programme, (Dept. TSE5), FREEPOST, London WC2E 9BR.
Please send me your free English book.
NAME
(BLOCK CAPITALS)
ADDRESS
Postcode
No stamp needed in U.K

Dis-syzygy blonde

The novelist Candia McWilliam has been described both as a verbal exhibitionist and as a bimbo. Catherine Bennett found her unperturbed

Abent? "It's a good Scots word," said Candia McWilliam, who has employed this handy preposition in her latest novel. Good or not, it was a stranger to *The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*. "I didn't hunt for it in a dictionary," she pointed out. "I don't go like a sort of mad professor, looking for arcana with a net."

The recondite may swoop, unsought, into the multi-clausled sentences of McWilliam, but its presence in her first novel, *A Case of Knives*, was considered sufficiently pervasive and unsettling to win her a reputation for verbal exhibitionism, as well as extreme cleverness.

There were plenty (including the judges of the Betty Trask Award) who admired her exotic imagination and meticulous literariness; others entertained the suspicion that she wrote like normal people then decorated her sentences from the thesaurus, like Colefax & Fowler romping through a Barratt show house.

Leaning back, and adjusting the small paintbrush and pencil which held up a lot of long fair hair, McWilliam dismissed the charge as fallacy. "I wouldn't be a novelist if I didn't seek some sort of shaping magic, something architectural in which the words are consonant," she said. "If I thought in the same words as everybody else I'd go and look for a job in TV-am."

Her new novel, *A Little Stranger*, is a far sparer tale than her last, with an appropriately less festive vocabulary; but there is still abent — and graminivore, bletted, zenana, caret, orgone. It would be quite wrong, she says, to assume that she was chastened by last year's accusations into a more demotic delivery. "It would be something immensely disingenuous for me to say I'm going to write a book whose bank account of words is no larger than that used by *The Sun*. I think it would be disingenuous in the same way as someone who wishes to make a statement about their own absence of snobbery."

McWilliam would certainly not be foolish enough to be caught out like that, although she is often to be heard claiming that she intends no show of superiority in her intellectual usages — even that she enjoyed being described as a "bimbo" last year, when *Private Eye* took against her. "I take it as a fantastic compliment when used in connection with me because I've always thought of myself as bookish, very tall, and not particularly physically dazzling."

Having said that, she also considers such abuse "the pusillanimous voice of scratching Dunciad London".

It was Edinburgh which produced McWilliam: an architectural historian for a father, a mother who was a textile designer, and an education in a "Jean Brodie type of school" which fostered her bookishness, taught her classics young, and the word "benthic" at the age of 11. "I think that the Scottish people have a very hardy inner life and they are unafraid of learning," she said. "Education is much more egalitarian in Scotland, knowledge is much less perceived to be a snobbish possession."

But even there, the young McWilliam, who read the *Odyssey* at the age of six, presented something of a challenge: "I remember being four and having my hair pulled because of the words."

She went to Sherborne School and won the *Vogue* talent contest. But at 15 years old McWilliam was too young to accept the prize of a job on the magazine, which had to wait until she had left school, gone to Girton, and got a first in English. There was a time, when she was 20, when she considered writing a PhD on dis-syzygy — the linking of disparate elements — in Scottish literature, and she now quotes Gerard Manley Hopkins to illustrate her occasional yearnings to be an academic. "But by that time it was quite clear that I should not be — that I didn't have the address, I was raring to go into the world, I had smelt something . . ." She took a job spreading Cow Gum in *Vogue*'s paste-up department.

McWilliam, a stately and arresting figure in cream cashmere and black trousers, says she was dazzled by the worldliness. "You know how other forms of life are very absorbing," she said. "I was very interested in watching models and fashion people, these people who relied on their bodies, because the whole of my life had been intellectually based . . ." Although she was once photographed for an Australian Levis advertisement McWilliam says she never modelled — at least, not until last year, when her literary success thrust her on to the fashion page of a Sunday newspaper, adorned in a Marks & Spencer suit, then a kimono. Another authorial shot, in a colour supplement, featured her bare-shouldered and far from bletted in an evening dress, although it did not say where the dress came from. "I looked like a spaniel in drag," said McWilliam.

She regretted that the loss of the "ideal Edwardian construct of the common reader and his entire habitat", and the degeneration of publishing into a leisure industry, now made such antics necessary.

This keen sense of commercial exigencies springs perhaps from her last job, as a publishing copywriter, which she took after leaving *Vogue*, more or less by chance. "Apart from being deeply ambitious, I wasn't very career ambitious," she said. "I was very ambitious to write or to paint consummately well and to make that my life. But that was a sort of underground stream. Meanwhile I had to earn a living."

Her prose benefited, she thinks, from the writing of advertisements for Gucci, for Kutchinsky, Innoxa, and others. "It's a discipline, you know, I think there's too much vulgar rubbernecking about Salman Rushdie and Fay Weldon having worked in advertising, as if it's a dirty thing to do . . . it's a salaried job, which allows people who love words to work with them all day." But she did not stay long. When she was 26, McWilliam left to marry the Earl of Portsmouth, with whom she had two children.

She recoils from questions about her life after that. There was a separation, after which she began writing her first novel, and now she lives with her second husband, a don, in a north Oxford flat where she waves her arms around a discreetly pregnant stomach, evaluates this interviewer's use of English, ("that's a good word"; " 'elaborate' is the wrong word in that sentence"), quotes Browning, Huxley and Tennyson; alludes to Elizabeth Bowen, Peter Porter, John Updike, Trollope. Now she enlarges on a passage from Martin Amis's *Money*, about factoids: "People are so sort of inundated with pap and personal detail that they are no longer able to think in terms of concepts or anything so cold and clean as ideas."

It alarms her that her new novel, which has two women losing their minds in deft parallel, has already been taken to be a story about the child-care dilemma, merely because she has made one woman a nanny, her heroine the mother. "It's not about the nanny problem any more than *The Turn of the Screw* is about the governess problem . . . It is about the having of attitudes rather than the having of feelings, and about the edge of things." In a rush of enthusiasm, McWilliam began to explain her ideas, her word games with names, her puns, the typically Scottish dis-syzygy in the first sentence. What if no one got it? "Cool," she said. "These things are there for those who have ears to hear and eyes to see. They are not put in as traps."

● A Little Stranger, *by Candia McWilliam, is published next Thursday (Bloomsbury, £12.95).*

NIGEL PARRY



A way with words: Candia McWilliam says Scottish people have a "very hardy inner life"

'I don't go like a mad professor looking for arcana with a net'

Dispatching junkie mail



BARBARA AMIEL

Last week I holidayed in the Bahamas, but as soon as I arrived and put sunblock SPF35 on my nose, I started bumping into issues. It began when my Bahamasair plane was three hours late in arriving from an island only a half-hour flight away. "Perfectly normal," explained the Midwest American family waiting next to me. While we munched deep-fried grouper, they swapped accounts with the restaurant owner about arriving unexpectedly at the airport when planes carrying drugs from Colombia came in. There were no scheduled night flights on the small island, they explained, and so it was quite interesting to see the darkened airport a beehive of activity.

"Stay away from the drug people," they told me, "and it's no problem. The dealers' homes are the big houses on the main road with the 6ft-high chain-link fences and the Dobermann or pit bull terriers." Later, looking at real estate on a neighbouring island, the agent was just as matter-of-fact. "I shouldn't get a house on a deserted beachfront," he said. "If a bale of drugs is dropped on your lot it could be trouble for a woman alone in a house." In Nassau, everyone agreed that the drug problem was very much better now, and a banker explained that it was causing a US dollar shortage on the islands. They put it down to the fact that the senior members of the Bahamian government — whose unaccountably large incomes have been the subject of a commission of inquiry — have now made so much money they can afford the luxury of joining the fight against drugs.

'None of the murderers I've met mentioned sleeplessness'

Back in London I read one of those endless stories about murder and mayhem in America due to the drug problem. A teenager charged with killing his mother because she had refused him money for drugs was said to have arranged her body to suggest rape, and in another incident a young female pathologist at Bellevue Hospital was found murdered and raped in her lab. The accused is a junkie. The deputy police chief of Washington was quoted in *The Times* as saying that he and his officers were appalled at the rise of a generation of youths without any human values. "They can go out and kill someone, then go home, go to bed and go to sleep," he said.

This seems to me to miss the point. There have always been a certain number of people, from highwaymen on, who could quite easily murder people and go to sleep that night. I've met a number of murderers and I can't think of one who mentioned sleeplessness. Nor do I think, as deputy commissioner Fulwood does, that the viciousness of the wounds he sees inflicted on murder victims in drug cases is very significant. The wounds simply depend on weapons available. The single factor that is very different about drug crime, to my mind, is the extraordinary economic incentive it holds out compared with the disincentives of being caught.

Teenagers can make thousands of dollars a day on the street dealing in drugs. But the way the criminal justice system operates, both here and in America, means that there is really no commensurate disincentive if they are caught. One can make the case to an ordinary burglar that the amount of work he has to do, and the risks he must take simply in order to try to fence some silver or a television set, are really not worth a few years in prison. But a drug dealer can make in five minutes what four years at university would not bring him.

Two solutions to this situation are available. One can either legalize drugs and reduce the incentive, or one can repress them with considerable brutality and increase the disincentive. Both solutions have their price. I happen to have an instinctual, irrational dislike of capital punishment, and find the Turkish or Indonesian solutions too drastic. But America must own some islands in Micronesia where they once tested bombs or counted fish. There is no reason why one can't collect every pusher on the first offence, and every user on the second, and put them in penal colonies. When the crisis is passed they can be paroled.

TALKBACK

From David Bryer, Overseas Director, Oxfam

Barbara Amiel's intemperate attack on Julie Christie and on *Vogue* magazine ("Mao chic", December 30) includes several inaccuracies about Oxfam, and its work in Kampuchea.

Oxfam has worked in Kampuchea since 1979, when it was heavily involved in relief efforts following the Pol Pot years. Oxfam has provided clean water, boosted food supplies, and trained Kampuchean technicians and engineers to replace the skills wiped out by the Khmer Rouge.

The two pre-requisites for a peaceful solution to the Kampuchea tragedy are for the Vietnamese to pull out, and for international efforts to keep the Pol Pot faction from returning to power.

That is why on January 6, the tenth anniversary of the overthrow of Pol Pot, Oxfam supporters presented their concerns to the UK embassies of key countries which can influence the course of events in Kampuchea. These, of course, included China, the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

From: Isobel Shepherd, Secretary, Lewisham Oxfam Hungry-for-Change Group, The Orchard, London SE3

Barbara Amiel's remarks on Julie Christie seem, perhaps understandably, rather jealous, but her comments on Oxfam are unforgivably ignorant. She appears unaware that Oxfam is not a political organization but a charity, and is therefore unable to call for the downfall of any government. Oxfam's aim is to work for the benefit of all deprived people, whatever their political alignment.

Ms Amiel would be wise to follow Ms Christie's example in doing something positive to help, and she could start by becoming better informed on the role played internationally by such charities as Oxfam.

50% off,
30% off,
20% off,
10% off.
(The New Year is taking off.)

The biggest ever Habitat Winter Sale is now on. You'll find huge reductions on selected lines throughout the store.

So come in now and get the New Year off to a prosperous start.

THE habitat SALE

■ A STOREHOUSE PLC COMPANY

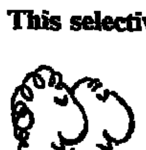
FABRICS WALLPAPERS BEDLINEN FURNITURE
OSBORNE & LITTLE
CURTAINS FURNITURE ACCESSORIES
JANUARY SALE
FINISHES
SATURDAY 21 JANUARY
304 KINGS ROAD SW3
DAILY 9.30-5.30
FABRICS WALLPAPERS CURTAINS FURNITURE

COND EVER SALE · SECOND EVER SAL
THE CONTEMPORARY TEXTILE GALLERY
Winter need no longer be a dull and grey affair.
At the Contemporary Textile Gallery we're having a bright and colourful sale with interesting reductions on our exclusive designer rugs and limited editions.
We want our second sale ever to be the best yet, so be sure to look in at the gallery in the square.
Now on until January 28th, Monday-Friday 10a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
EVER SALE · SECOND EVER SALE · SEC

HEAL'S
·SALE·
NOW ON
Up to 20% off selected ranges of Heal's own upholstery in fabrics & leather
20% off selected ranges of fitted bedroom furniture
15% off Heal's handmade beds
At least 10% off big selection of Heal's dining, storage & occasional furniture
At least 10% off Heal's bedroom furniture, beds, childrens furniture & sofabeds
◆
Save at least 30% on discontinued and less than perfect fabrics, China, Glass and Linens
◆
Save 25% on Heal's feather & down duvets
Save 15% on selected brass & ceramic lampbases
◆
INTEREST FREE CREDIT
Subject to status - minimum loan value £500.
Ask for written details at our stores (Licensed Credit Brokers).
All offers subject to availability.
■ A STOREHOUSE PLC COMPANY
London ◆ Guildford ◆ Croydon
Kingston ◆ Reading ◆ West Thurrock

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



BOOKING KEY
☆ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE

LONDON

★ 'ALLO 'ALLO: Stage version of the comedy series.
Palladium Theatre, Argyll Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Tube: Oxford Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.40pm, mats Fri and Sat 5.30-7.40pm. £5.50-£14.50.

☆ AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE: Transfer from Young Vic of Arthur Miller's engrossing adaptation.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, W1 (01-839 4401). Tube: Embankment. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm; Mats Wed 2-5pm and Sat 4-7pm. Eves £5-£13.50, mats £5-£10.

☆ ANYTHING FOR A QUIET LIFE: Théâtre de Complicité's funniest show: telling the terrible truth about office life.
Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Then Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm. Mon £3.50; Tues-Thurs £5.50; Fri and Sat £6.50.

☆ ARTIST DESCENDING A STAIRCASE: Deft, often touching stage version of Stoppard's radio play.
Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 5122). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Thurs 8-9.30pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10pm. Mats Fri and Sat 6-7.30pm. £5-£13.50.

☆ BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical.
Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 3-6pm, and Sat 4-7pm, £6.90-£18.50. (D)

☆ BRIGADOON: OK revival of Lerner and Loewe's misty Scottish musical.
Victoria Palace, Victoria St SW1 (01-834 1317). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.30-10pm. Mats Thurs, Sat 2.30-5pm. £8-£20. Thurs mat, all seats half-price.

OUT OF TOWN

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166) . . . ☆ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072) . . . ☆ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399) . . . ☆ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) . . . ☆ Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913) . . . ☆ Les Misérables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909) . . . ☆ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) . . . ☆ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) . . . ☆ Run for your Wife: Criterion Theatre (01-867 1117) . . . ☆ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665)

BASINGSTOKE: ☆ The Reluctant Debutante: Josephine Tewson heads strongly cast revival of the Douglas-Home Fifties comedy.
Haymarket Theatre, The Shrubbery, Cliddesden Rd (0256 465566).

BELFAST: ☆ After the Fall: Clare Hackett and Tim Woodward in Arthur Miller's play based on the troubles of Marilyn Monroe.
Lyric Theatre, Ridgeway St (0232 381081). Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Mon-Thurs £4, Fri & Sat £5.

BRISTOL: ☆ The Three Musketeers: Dashing Jason Connery leads the Famous Three in the fight against Bob Willis's scheming Cardinal.
Old Vic, King St (0272 250250). Mon-Fri. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Mats Thurs and Sat 3pm. Eve perfs £3-£9, mats £4 and concessions. Until Feb 4. (D)

EDINBURGH: ☆ Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme: Robert Carr plays the *nouveau riche* hero busily bettering himself in Hector MacMillan's lively translation into Scots.
Royal Lyceum Theatre, Grindlay St (031 229 9697).

MANCHESTER: ☆ The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: Enjoyable musical
Library Theatre, St Peter's Square (061 236 7110). Mon-Sat 2.30pm, Fri and Sat eves 7pm, £5, child £2.

MANCHESTER: ★ Arms and the Man: Paul Herzberg plays the chocolate soldier in Casper Wrede's revival.
Royal Exchange Theatre, Cross Street (061 833 9833). 8pm, £2.80-£10

SOUTHAMPTON: ☆ Swallows and Amazons: Arthur Ransome's high-energy children push the boats out in search of adventure.
Nuffield Theatre, University Rd (0703 671771). Tues-Sat 7pm, mats Sats 2.30pm. Tues-Thurs £6.95, children and concessions £4.95. Fri and Sat £7.95, children and concessions £4.95. Last performance tomorrow (D)

WATFORD: ☆ The Patchwork Girl of Oz: Musical sequel to *The Wizard* Palace Theatre, Clarendon (0923 225671), 5.30pm, £6-£7.70.

FILMS

■ Also on national release
☎ Advance booking possible

■ AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS (PG): Louis Malle's moving, semi-autobiographical drama, set in a boarding school in the last months of the Second World War (107 min).
Curzon Mayfair (01-499 3737). Progs 1.30 (not Sun), 3.45, 6.20, 8.50.

■ BUSTER (15): Singer Phil Collins makes his cinema début in a film surveying the life and loves of Buster Edwards, Great Train Robber (102 min).
Cannon Panton St (01-930 0631). Progs 2.10, 4.45, 7.20, 10.00.

■ COMING TO AMERICA (15): Eddie Murphy as a pampered foreign prince who comes to America to select his own bride. A botched comic vehicle with a touch of sweetness; directed by John Landis. (116 min).
Plaza (01-200 0200). Progs 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30. Late Fri, Sat midnight.

DEAD RINGERS (18): David Cronenberg's sleek psychological thriller about identical twins (Jeremy Irons times two) who run a women's fertility clinic and share the same girlfriend (Genevieve Bujold) (115 min).
Odeon Leicester Sq (01-930 6111). Progs 12.00, 2.40, 5.20, 8.10. Late Fri, Sat 12.05am.

DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES (15): Terence Davies's remarkable new film set in Liverpool in the 1940s and '50s — a moving exorcism of family ghosts, ingeniously set to popular music (85 min).
Renoir (01-837 8402). Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

THE DRESSMAKER (15): Beryl Bainbridge's novel about a teenage girl in wartime Liverpool whose romance with a GI causes flutters among her guardian aunts (Joan Plowright, Billie Whitelaw) (92 min).
Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7697). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.45, 8.45. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

Roxy around the clock



Although his group Roxy Music is in a semi-permanent layoff, and his own solo recordings appear only erratically, Bryan Ferry (left) continues to thrive. Having re-assured himself of his ability to draw the crowds on his well-received tour of theatres and concert halls in December, the smoothest crooner in British rock is now taking his show to large auditoriums, beginning at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham tonight. His appeal is very much based on past achievements, with "Let's Stick Together", one of his early solo hits, recently back in the charts after being featured in a television advertisement for a breakfast cereal. He is also nowadays apparently given the credit for the group's glories: although by no means the most accomplished musician, he has certainly proved himself the supreme stylist and most acute commercial mind. *The Ultimate Collection*, yet another re-packaging of his own and Roxy Music's most successful songs, appeared just in time to be heavily TV-promoted for Christmas. His stage show naturally draws on the old Roxy favourites, which he at least treats with respect and performs with zest, including a much commented on encore of "Do the Strand". NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133) 7.30pm, £10-£12.50, tonight and tomorrow.
Tony Patrick

■ A FISH CALLED WANDA (15): The adventures of two scheming Americans (Jamie Lee Curtis and Kevin Kline), an uptight English barrister (John Cleese) and an animal rights fanatic (Michael Palin) (109 min).
Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.50, 4.55, 8.05. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.
Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 5.55, 9.05.
☎ Plaza (01-200 0200). Progs 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.
Screen on Baker St (01-935 2772). Progs 4.05, 6.40, 8.40.

HIGH SPIRITS (15): Spirited supernatural comedy from director Neil Jordan, with Peter O'Toole as the owner of a decrepit Irish castle advertised as *haunted* (92 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Rd (01-636 6148). Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.15, 8.35

THE LONELY PASSION OF JUDITH HEARNE (15): Intelligent version of Brian Moore's novel about an impoverished woman whose romantic dreams turn sour. With Maggie Smith, Bob Hoskins (103 min).
Minema (01-235 4225). Progs 2.30, 4.45, 7.00, 9.15.

MOONWALKER (PG): Michael Jackson makes his eccentric big screen debut (93 min).
Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 12.40 (not Sun), 2.40, 4.45, 6.45, 8.50. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

SCROOGED (PG): Christmas comedy featuring Bill Murray as a TV executive (101 min).
Plaza (01-200 0200). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00. Late Fri, Sat 11.30.
Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.00.

■ WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT (PG): Energetic mixture of cartoons and real life. Ace animation director Richard Williams supplies a frantic array of "toon" characters, headed by Roger Rabbit. Bob Hoskins plays a dishevelled gumshoe, Eddie Valiant (104 min).
Odeon High St Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.10, 7.05, 9.40.
Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.
Prince Charles (01-437 8181). Progs 1.50, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.
Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 1.55, 4.05, 6.20, 8.35. Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

WILLOW (PG): Costly medieval fantasy, from George Lucas, about an evil queen's reign of terror and an earnest midget's mission to save the infant princess. Directed by Ron Howard; with Val Kilmer, Joanne Whalley, Warwick Davis (126 min).
Cannon Baker St (01-935 9772). Progs 2.20, 5.10, 8.05. Late Fri, Sat 10.50.
Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.05.

■ YOUNG GUNS (18): A pastiche Western. An English ranch owner, who has his young cowboys herding steer by day and reading poetry by night, is shot dead by tough townsfolk (110 min).
Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636). Progs 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.20
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 2.40, 5.30, 8.20, 11.00
Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.05, 11.15

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:

1 (1)	Who Framed Roger Rabbit
2 (-)	Dead Ringers
3 (4)	High Spirits
4 (3)	A Fish Called Wanda
5 (-)	Young Guns
6 (2)	Moonwalker
7 (-)	The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne
8 (5)	Willow
9 (-)	The Dressmaker
10 (7)	Au Revoir Les Enfants

Supplied by *Screen International*

OUTSIDE LONDON:

1 Who Framed Roger Rabbit
2 Moonwalker
3 Willow
4 A Fish Called Wanda
5 Scrooged

Supplied by: *Screen International*

UNITED STATES:

1 (1)	Rain Man
2 (2)	Twins
3 (-)	The Accidental Tourist
4 (5)	Working Girl
5 (3)	The Naked Run
6 (6)	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
7 (7)	Tequila Sunrise
8 (4)	Oliver & Company
9 (9)	Scrooged
10 (10)	Hellbound: Hellraiser II

Supplied by: Exhibitor Relations Co Inc/*Screen International*

VIDEO RENTALS:

1 Robocob
2 Three Men and A Baby
3 Predator
4 Batteries Not Included
5 Baby Boom

Supplied by: *Video Business*

CONCERTS

☆ COMPLETE VAGANZA: The City of London Chamber Orchestra in the complete version of Casken's *Vaganza*, Debussy's *Prélude à l'Après-Midi d'un Faune*, Ravel's *Ma Mère l'Oye*.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061), 7pm, £3.50-£10.

☆ AWFUL CHILD: Reuben Riera, guitar, plays Ubieta's *Berceuse pour un Enfant Terrible*, Ponce's *Mexican Song*, Granados's *Valses Poeticas*, Ginastera's Sonata Op 47 and the London premiere of Rugeles's *Sagitario*.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £3-£6.

☆ SEE SEAMAN: The Scottish National Orchestra is conducted by Christopher Seaman in Smetana's *Vltava*, Chopin's *Piano Concerto No 2* (David Golub, soloist) and Elgar's Symphony No 1.
Usher Hall, Lothian Rd, Edinburgh (031 228 1155, cc 031 228 5756), 7.30pm, £2.70-£11.50.

☆ PAYNE'S ECHOES: Artistic Brass playing Payne's Echoes of Courtly Love, a Bartók folk Song Suite, Richard Rodney Bennett's Commedia IV, George Nicholson's Brass Quintet.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800), 6.30pm, £2-£4.



The Hungarian pianist András Schiff (above) came to prominence in the 1970s when he carried off prizes at Leeds, Prague and Moscow. He has more than maintained his early promise. He is a particularly vivid interpreter of Bach and tonight he plays and directs an all-Bach programme with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe at the Barbican Centre (see listing). The programme consists of the Brandenburg Concertos Nos 3 and 5 and the Piano Concertos in D minor and F minor.

GALLERIES

CAROLE HODGSON: Recent bronze sculptures and drawings.
Angela Flowers Gallery, 11 Tottenham Mews, London W1 (01-637 3089), Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10.30am-12.30pm, free, until Feb 4.

THE SUBVERSIVE STITCH: Works by 20 women artists who use textiles.
Watermans Art Centre, 40 High St, Brentford, Middlesex (01-568 1176), Mon-Fri 11.30am-9pm, Sat-Sun 11am-9.30pm, free, until Feb 9.

PATRICK HUGHES: Fifteen years of prints by the visual punster.
Flowers East, 199 Richmond Rd, London E8 (01-985 3333), Wed-Sun 10am-6pm, free, until Jan 29.

ALISON WILDING: Five new abstract sculptures.
Karsten Schubert, 85 Charlotte St, London W1 (01-631 0031), Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, free, until Jan 28.

RUBENS: Paintings, drawings and prints.
Courtauld Institute Galleries, Woburn Square, London WC1 (01-580 1015), Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, £1.50, until Feb 12.

JEFFERY CAMP RA: A retrospective of uninhibited, celebratory figurative paintings since 1949.
Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (01-232 7734), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, free, until Jan 17.

TALKS

NOAM CHOMSKY: The American intellectual and linguistics expert delivers a talk, Language and Mind, in the Darwin series of lectures.
Darwin College, Cambridge. 5.30pm.

DANCE

★ THE NUTCRACKER: Peter Schaufuss's production for London Festival Ballet.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800), 7.30 to 9.45pm, £5, £17.

JAZZ

☆ ROADSIDE PICNIC: Led by saxophonist Dave O'Higgins, the youthful, rock-influenced quartet releases its debut RCA/BMG album next month.
The Borderline, Orange Yard, off Manette St, London WC2 (01-497 2261/2), 9pm, £5.

☆ STAN SULZMANN: An under-rated saxophonist, appearing with the house band led by the excellent Peter Jacobsen on piano.
Cambridge Modern Jazz Club, Flambards, Rose Crescent, Cambridge (info 0223 62550), 8pm, ring for prices.

☆ MARTIN TAYLOR: Ahead of his national tour, the Stephane Grappelli guitarist plays a double-bill with the dense Steve Berry Trio.
Queen's Hotel, Imperial Square, Cheltenham (info 0242 523690) 8pm, £4

☆ GEORGE COLEMAN: Penultimate night from the ex-Miles Davis tenor player. Blues vocalist Tam White provides a rumbustious support set.
Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith St, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £10 (members £6).

ROCK

☆ THE DARLING BUDS: Girlie-led pop group from Newport, Wales, currently enjoying their first serious chart action with the single "Hit the Ground".
Venue, 15 Calton Rd, Edinburgh (031-557 3073), 7.30pm, £4.

☆ PRONG: The gloriously-named hard-core crossover extremists from New York make their UK debut headlining an impressive bill of mutant luminaries — Head Of David, Bolt Thrower and Terminal Cheesecake.
University of London Union, Malet St, London WC1 (01-580 9551), 7.30pm, £4.50 advance, £5 on door.

★ BROS: Top pop pin-ups of 1988, with a cheerfully choreographed and professionally executed *mélange* of song and dance.
Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234), 7.30pm, £9.50, for two nights.

OPERA

☆ DIE FLEDERMAUS: John Mortimer's new English version in John Cox's production for the Royal Opera: strong cast includes Carol Vanness, Thomas Allen and Dennis O'Neill.
Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066), 7.30-10.45pm, £2.50-£75.

☆ CHRISTMAS EVE: David Pountney's conjuring trick of a production brings Rimsky-Korsakov's fairytale opera to enchanting new life. Martin Handley conducts and Elizabeth Byrne now takes the role of Oksana.
English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 7.30-10.30pm, £2.50 to £26.

OTHER EVENTS

NORTHERN TRAVEL FAIR: Tour operators and airlines offering holidays in Britain and overseas. Visitors may book holidays on the spot. *Entertainments* for adults and children, including Punch and Judy, competitions, prizes, refreshments.
G Mex Centre, Manchester. Today, 10.30am-8pm. Tomorrow, Sun 10.30am-6pm. Adult £1.50. Child £1.00. Family ticket £4.00.

ANTIQUE MARKET: Variety of antiques and small collectors' items for sale.
Corn Hall, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. 9am-3pm.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

BEN JONSON'S CONVERSATIONS WITH DRUMMOND: Readings of conversations between Jonson and Scots poet William Drummond during Jonson's journey from London to Scotland in 1618.
Olivier Theatre, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252), 6pm, Feb 8, 27 and 28.

ROYAL BALLET: Performances of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Ondine* in Birmingham.
Hippodrome, Hurst St, Birmingham (021 622 7486), Feb 27-March 4.

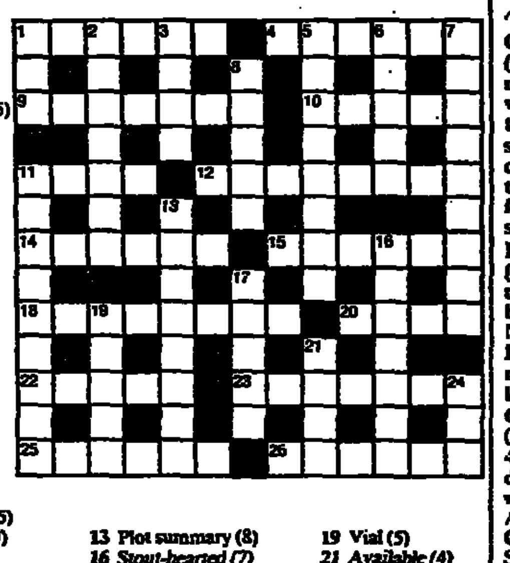
LAST CHANCE

TOWARDS A BIGGER PICTURE: Part II of contemporary photoworks on a large scale, including Boyd Webb, Helen Chadwick, Brian Griffin.
V&A, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-938 8441/8349), ends Sun

WAKE UP AND DREAM: Drawings inspired by golden age of the Broadway musical, with costume designs, jewels, brocade and shimmering outfits of the 1920s. Accompanying slide show and music. Ends Sunday.
Theatre Museum, Tavistock St, London WC2 (01-836 7891).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Talks: Greta Carslaw; Other Events: Judy Froshaug; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1769



ACROSS
1 Untamed (6)
4 Vicious (6)
9 Racing sledge (7)
10 Sheets, tablecloths (5)
11 Ancient fertility god (4)
12 Tunnels series (8)
14 Deep ditch (6)
15 Splinter (6)
18 Contrary (8)
20 Claptrap (4)
22 Popular pipe (5)
23 Presumptuous (7)
25 Cowardly (6)
26 Highborn class (6)

DOWN
1 Weeping gasp (3)
2 Quiver (7)
3 Storm (4)
5 Dependable (8)
6 Glide/pause dance (5)
7 First Atlantic flier (9)
8 Advertising type (5)
11 Mast top cadet (6,3)
13 Plot summary (8)
16 Stout-hearted (7)
17 Pinch out (5)
19 Vial (5)
21 Available (4)
24 Moment (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1768
ACROSS: 1 Letchworth 8 Ribband 9 Cakes 10 Bare 11 Condense 13 Balsa 14 Night 16 Streachy 18 Pall 21 Canal 22 Linctus 23 Upholstery
DOWN: 1 Liberal 2 Toad 3 Hydrocephalus 4 Occident 5 Taken 6 Crab 7 Aspect 12 Martello 13 Basics 15 Ghastly 17 Run up 19 List 20 Once

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

GIRT
(b) A ship is girt when she is moored with two anchors out, with both cables hauled in so taut that they prevent her swinging to wind or tide. The cables, as they grow out tautly to the anchors, catch her forefoot as she attempts to swing.

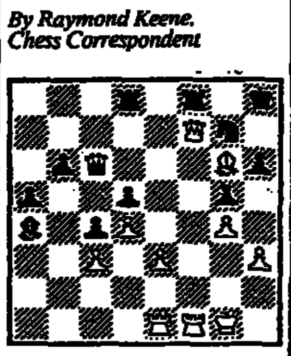
LEVANTER
(c) A strong, raw wind from the east or north-east that blows in the Mediterranean; Nelson: "I shall not keep the Perseus by detaining her a moment with this fine levanter."

CIMON
(a) Athenian Admiral (c. 507-449 BC), the son of Miltiades. He was in joint command with Themistocles of the Athenian squadron of the Greek fleet at the Battle of Salamis against the Persians in 480 BC, and was the man most responsible for that momentous victory.

NEPTUNE'S SHEEP
(b) The mariner's name for white waves at sea breaking into foam.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



The above position is taken from the game between Gligoric (White) and Persitz (Black) played in Hastings 1968. White plays and wins. The winning move will be given in tomorrow's *Times*.

Solution to yesterday's position: White wins with 1 Nf6+ (after 1...Bxf6 2Qg6+ Bg7 3Qxf7+ Kh8 4Rd7 is crushing).



ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

THE CITY OF LONDON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. Britain's first professional youth orchestra is performing TODAY DEBUSSY: L'apres-midi d'un faune RAVEL: Mother Goose Suite. BRITTEN: Les Illuminations... Joan Rodgers (Soprano); Christopher Zimmerman (Conductor). St John's Smith Square SW1: 7.00pm. Tickets/CC/Tel 01 222 1061.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 (Last perf) Christmas Eve. Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 The Mikado.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 928 8800 (Credit cards accepted) LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET THE NUTCRACKER Today 7.30. Tomor 3pm & 7.30. LAST THREE PERFS.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911. Stdby info 836 6903 S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Ton't 7.00 THE ROYAL OPERA Die Fledermaus. Tomor 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET Cinderella. Ballet casting info: 01 240 9815.

SADLERS WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24hr 7 day 240 7200. NATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE TAILOR OF GLOUCESTER Today 10.30. LES PETITS RATS Ton't 7.30.

THEATRES

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111/2 cc 836 1171. CC with bkg fee 240 7200/01-741 9999/Grp Sales 930 6123. Eves 7.30, Wed mat 3, Sat 4 & 8 Royal Shakespeare Company's LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES Winner of 4 "BEST PLAY" awards. Seats sometimes available - Call Today!

ADELPHI 836 7611 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/836 7358/379 4444 First call 24hr cc 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 NOW BOOKING TO AUGUST ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" S Express

ALBERY 867 1115 cc 867 1111 379 4444 (No bkg fee)/741 9999 240 7200 (Bkg fee) Grps 867 1113 BEST MUSICAL SWET Award 1983 WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS Starring KIKI DEE "ASTONISHING... A Milestone in British Musicals" S Exp "THRILLING, ORIGINAL and IMPORTANT... brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

ALDWYCH 836 6404/0641 CC 379 6233/741 9999 First Call 836 3464 (Bkg Fee) Evenings 7.30 Mats 3.0 & 8.30 "ROWAN ATKINSON" TIMOTHY WEST CHERYL CAMPBELL IN PEAK FORM in THE SNEEZE MARVELLOUSLY FUNNY and Varied Chekhov/Frayn pieces Directed by Ronald Eyre" Times

APOLLO THEATRE Shaftesbury Ave. Box Office & CC 01-437 2663. Agents CC (no bkg fee) 01-741 9999 / 379 4444 & CC (with bkg fee) 240 7200. Eves 8.0 Sat 4.30 & 8.0 Wed Mat 3.00 FRANCESCA ANNIS GILLIAN BARGE ZOE WANAMAKER NATIONAL THEATRE production of MRS KLEIN by NICHOLAS WRIGHT Directed by PETER GILL Two Laurence Olivier Award Nominations BEST PLAY BEST ACTRESS (Gillian Barge)

APOLLO VICTORIA 35 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188 CC Open All Hours 379 4444 1st Call 240 7200 K Prowse 741 9999 Groups 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 FIFTH HIT YEAR STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues mats NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

ARTS S 836 2132: CC 379 4444 24 hrs. 7 days (no bkg fee) Hull Truck in John Godber's TEECHERS "TALES OUT OF SCHOOL" ... MARVELLOUSLY FUNNY" Time Mon-Thur 8, Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9 ... £1 50 off 1 hr before perf. JAN SALE - 2 FOR 1 MONS

BARBICAN THEATRE 01 638 8891 cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY FINAL PERFS ENDS TOMORROW TON'T 7.30. TOMOR 2.30 & 7.30 A few seats still available THREE SISTERS RETURNS JAN 17 THE WIZARD OF OZ "MARVELLOUS SHOW... MAGICAL" Times THE PIT ELECTRA Ton't-Tues 7.30 Tomor 2.0 & 7.30 ELECTRA, DIVINE GOSSIP RETURNS JAN 18.

CAMBRIDGE 379 5299 cc no bkg fee 741 9999/24hr bkg fee 240 7200/379 4444 Groups 930 6123 ADAM FAITH ANITA DOBSON BUDGIE The Musical "A five minute ovation" Std "THE BEST SONGS IN THE WESTEND" Vogue Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 LAST TWO WEEKS

CHURCHILL Bromley (15 mins Victoria) 460 6677 ROLAND RAT in BABES IN THE WOOD Starring Barbara Windsor, Nicholas Parsons, John Inman until Jan 21st.

COMEDY THEATRE Panton St, SW1 01-930 2578 ALEC GUINNESS "A performance of genius" Illustrated London News EDWARD HERRMANN "Fascinating" Standard in A WALK IN THE WOODS by LEE BLESSING "Polished, witty, & humane" Gdn "Ronald Eyre's elegant production" Gdn Eves Tue-Sat 8.00 Mats Wed at 3.00 Sats at 4.00 cc First Call 7 day 24-hr 01-240 7200 (Bkg Fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (Bkg Fee) CCTS 01-741 9999 (Bkg Fee)

CRITERION S 867 1117 CC 867 1111/379 4444/741 9999. Grps 867 1113 Eves 8. Thu mat 2.30, Saturday 5.30 & 8.30 "BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" Daily Mail The Theatre of Comedy Company TERRY SCOTT COLIN BAKER BILL PERTWEE JACQUELINE CLARKE HELEN GILL SAM COX DAVID MASTERMAN NICHOLAS BAILEY RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDON'S LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY Written and directed by RAY COONEY Over 2400 side-splitting perfs "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S. Ex

DOMINION (01) 580 9562 CC 24 hrs no fee 01 379 4444/741 9999 JIM DAVIDSON in LONDONS ALL STAR PANTOMIME CINDERELLA with SHERRIE HEWSON GEORGE SEWELL Today at 7.30. Tomorrow at 2.30 & 7.30pm LAST TWO WEEKS SOME SEATS AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR AT EVERY PERF

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 cc 836 9837 cc 240 7200/741 9999/379 4444. Grps 836 5123 TOM STOPPARD'S ARTIST DESCENDING A STAIRCASE "MASTERLY" Ind "Witty, ingenious, clever" Gdn Mon-Thur 8 Fri & Sat 6 & 8.30

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 01 240 8230 cc 867 1111/379 4444 3 GUYS NAKED FROM THE WAIST DOWN A NEW COMEDY MUSICAL

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & cc 01-836 8108 (no bkg fee) First Call 24hr 7 day cc 01-240 7200 (bkg fee) BACK WITH A VENGEANCE THE SECOND COMING WITH THE IMMORTAL BARRY HUMPHRIES 9 MARCH FOR 31 PERFS ONLY

FORTUNE 836 2238 CC 741 9999 First Call 836 3464 (Bkg Fee) Eves 8.0 Sats 5.0 & 8.30 MAUREEN LIPMAN in RE: JOYCE! Adapted from the works of JOYCE GRENFELL With Denis King Directed by Alan Strachan MUST END FEB 18

GARRICK 01 379 6107 cc 01 240 7200 Grps 930 6123 MARIA AITKEN RUPERT EVERETT NOEL COWARD'S THE VORTEX Previews 19 Jan Opens 26 Jan

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/741 9999. First Call 836 3464 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 Eves 7.45, Sat Mat 3pm GERALDINE McEWAN SARA KESTELMAN in LETTICE AND LOVAGE by PETER SHAFFER with MORAY WATSON Dir MICHAEL BLAKEMORE BEST COMEDY '88 E.Std Award

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. cc 01 853 3800 (no bkg fee) Evenings 7.45 Mats Sat 2.30. THE WOMAN IN WHITE by Mathew Murphy based on the novel by Wilkie Collins. "Elegant, Feminine" S.Tel

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301 Mike Leigh's SMELLING A RAT Ton't Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 4.30 & 8pm "Spellbinding and very funny" Time Extended to Feb 4.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-930 9832 CC 1st Call 24hr/7 day 01-240 7200 (Bkg Fee) & Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (Bkg Fee) "Sensational West End Debut" D Exp of The Peter Hall Company ORPHEUS DESCENDING by Tennessee Williams "VANESSA REDGRAVE... the greatest acting I have seen for many a long day" Times Eves 7.30, Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 LIMITED SEASON-ENDS FEB 18.

HER MAJESTY'S Haymarket 839 2244 CC 24hr 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS CLAIRE MOORE MICHAEL CORMICK Jan Hartley Morris plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Sold out to 30 Sept New bookings period to be announced Queue daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM Box Office / CC / Grps 437 7373 First Call CC (bkg fee) 240 7200 CC (no bkg fee) 379 4444/741 9999 'ALLO 'ALLO 'ALLO 'ALLO "IT'S ALL SAUCE AT THE CAFE OF LAUGHS" Mon-Thu 8.0, Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311 Prev Now Eves 7.45pm Mats Wed 2.30pm Sat 4pm an adaptation of Susan Hill's the WOMAN IN BLACK with JOHN DUTTINE and CHARLES KAY. Studio Eves 8pm Mat Sat 4.30pm PENTECOST by Stewart Parker

MERMAID 236 5568 or 741 9999 Open All Hrs 379 4444 no bkg fee ROY MARSDEN KATE O'MARA THE RELAPSE "A delicious comedy" Std "A delightful treat for the festive season" D Mail Eves 7.30 Mats Thur 2.30 & Sat 4

NATIONAL THEATRE SBK Box Office & CC 01-928 2252 Grps 01 620 0741 Agencies, bkg fee 240 7200/741 9999

NATIONAL THEATRE
OLIVIER Today & Tomor 10.30 & 2.00 THE MAGIC OLYMPICAL GAMES a children's show by Graeme Garden. Ton't & Tomor 7.15 BARTHOLOMEW FAIR by Ben Jonson.
LYTTELTON Ton't 7.45, Tomor 2.15 & 7.45 SINGLE SPIES two new plays by Alan Bennett
COTTESLOE Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 MAKING HISTORY new play by Brian Friel. Cheap seats day of perfs all theatres from 10am

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC 404 4079 OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS SEATS NOW AVAILABLE FOR MON TO THURS Group Bookings 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567. NOW BOOKING TO APRIL

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 From 26 January ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE CO THE WARS OF THE ROSES RICHARD II: HENRY IV Part 1: HENRY IV Part 2: HENRY V: HENRY VI: House of Lancaster: HENRY VI: House of York RICHARD III. "MAGIC... ASTONISHING... MAGNIFICENT" Guardian SEE ALL 7 PLAYS AND SAVE UP TO £33!

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 Grps 494 1671 "THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval "FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

PHOENIX THEATRE 01-836 2294 cc 01-240 9661 or 01-741 9999 (No Bkg Fee) also 01-240 7200/01-379 4444 (Bkg Fee) DEREK JACOBI in RICHARD III by William Shakespeare Directed by Clifford Williams Evgs. 7.30 Mats Thurs and Sat 2.00pm Richard II Returns to Repertoire from 27 Feb

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401 Credit Cards First Call 24hr 7 day 240 7200 (bkg fee) 741 9999 (bkg fee) JACKIE MASON'S THE WORLD ACCORDING TO ME! Performances from February 7 FOR 5 WEEKS ONLY!

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 01-839 4401 cc 1st Call (bkg fee) 01-240 7200/741 9999/379 4444 Eves 7.30 Wed Mat 2.0, Sats 4.0 & 8.00 "ARTHUR MILLER'S thrilling version of" Obs AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE "IT BLAZES LIKE A FOREST FIRE" Sunday Times LAST FOUR WEEKS!

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5989 GEMMA CRAVEN EMILE BELCOURT ONLY 2 DAYS TO GO! RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S SOUTH PACIFIC BEST MUSICAL 1988 Drama Magazine "WALL-TO-WALL SHOW STOPPERS" D Express "TERRIFIC" Times "A Great Musical" S Times Eves 7.30 Wed & Sat 2.30 Credit Cards 01 836 1226 MUST END JAN 14 PRIOR TO NATIONAL TOUR

PICCADILLY 867 1118 cc 867 1111 (no bkg fee) 379 4444/240 7200 (24hr)/741 9999 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 A new Musical METROPOLIS Prevs 16 Feb Opens 1 March

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 ALL 1st cc bkgs FIRST CALL 24hr 7 day on 836 3464 Grp Sales 930 6123 Eve 7.45 Mat Thur/Sat 2.30 BEST MUSICAL 1986 Drama Magazine CHESS "A GRAND MASTER OF A SHOW" Newsweek OVER 1000 PERFORMANCES

PRINCE OF WALES Box Office 01 839 5972 CC First Call 24hr 7 day 836 3464 (with bkg fee) 379 6131 (open all hrs) ASPECTS OF LOVE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S New Musical Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART Directed by TREVOR NUNN Opens April 12

QUEENS 734 1166/0261/0120 cc 741 9999/379 4444 24hr 7day cc 836 3464 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 LAST 6 WEEKS TO SEE TONY BRITTON GWEN WATFORD BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT by JEFFREY ARCHER "BRILLIANT" Press Assoc. "A TRIUMPH" D Exp IN ITS 2ND YEAR! Mon-Sat 8 Mat Thu 3 Sat 4.30 MUST END FEBRUARY 18 PRIOR TO NATIONAL TOUR

RAYMOND REVUEBAR CC 734 1593 Mon-Sat two shows nightly 8pm & 10pm. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA 1958 - 1988. Now celebrating 30 SENSATIONAL YEARS at the world's centre of erotic entertainment.

SHAFTESBURY Box Office & cc 379 5399 cc (bkg fee) 379 4444/741 9999 ANTHONY HOPKINS in M. BUTTERFLY A new play by David Henry Hwang Directed by John Dexter Prevs fr 14 April Opens 20 April

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE Box Office 379 5399 24hr cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) or 741 9999 240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 ONLY 4 WEEKS TO SEE! JULIA McKENZIE MILLICENT MARTIN DANIEL MASSEY DAVID HEALY & EARTHA KITT FOLLIES "After 14 months Follies remains THE BEST MUSICAL in London" Gdn. "Musicals don't come any more adult or any better" Time Out. "A HEAVENLY SHOW" Mail on Sunday Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3. MUST END FEB 4 PRIOR TO U. S. PRODUCTION

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 37TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP

STRATFORD UPON AVON Box Office and cc (0789) 295623 Royal Shakespeare Company at RST. THE PLANTAGENETS: Edward IV Tonight 7.30. Richard III Mat Tomor 1.30. The Tempest Tomor. Mon. Tue 7.30. Macbeth Wed 7.30. Swan Theatre Restoration Tonight 7.30. Mat Tomor 1.30. The Man Of Mode Tomor. Mon. Tue 7.30. The Plain Dealer Wed 7.30. The Other Place. Mary John. Meal/Ticket/Hotel package: (0789) 414999.

VAUDEVILLE cc 836 9987/5645 741 9999 1st Call 836 3464 (Bkg Fee) Monday-Friday Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed 2.30 Sats 5.0 & 8.30 IAN McKELLEN JANE ASHER in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S new play HENCEFORWARD...

VICTORIA PALACE 834 1317 "The Real Thing" Standard LERNER & LOEWE'S BRIGADOON "Is the most joyously valued musical to be seen in the West-End - NOT TO BE MISSED" Daily Exp CC (bkg fee) 836 2428/379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123 Mon-Sat 7.30 Thur & Sat 2.30 THURS MATINEE HALF PRICE NOW BOOKING TO MAY 20

WESTMINSTER 834 0283/4 CC 834 0048 379 4444 741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE Today 2pm & 6.30pm Tomor 3pm & 6.30. Mon 2pm & 6.30, Tues, Thurs 10.30 & 2pm.

WHITEHALL 867 1119 cc 867 1111 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/741 9999 Grps 867 1113 "The Master's New Thriller" S.T. FRANCIS DURBRIDGE'S A TOUCH OF DANGER "Firecracker Of A Thriller" N of W Eves 8 Mats Thur 3 Sat 5

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE 01-867 1116 cc 01-867 1111/379 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 01-867 1113 "An Ideal Holmes" D. Tel JEREMY BRETT EDWARD HARDWICKE in THE SECRET OF SHERLOCK HOLMES by Jeremy Paul "The best Holmes and Watson I have ever seen" Sunday Express "Both performances are of a high brilliance" Times Lit Supplement Directed by Patrick Garland Mon-Fri 8.00. Sats. 5.30 & 8.30 Mats Wed 3.00

ART GALLERIES

BUCKINGHAM PALACE. THE QUEEN'S GALLERY Buckingham Gate, SW1A. 01-799 2331 Treasures from the Royal Collection until 29th Oct. Tues-Sat 10.30-5.00. Sun 2-5 pm. open B Hols. Adm charge: Adults £1.20. Child/OAP's/Students 60p. Shop.

FISCHER FINE ART 30 King St, St James's, SW1 839 3942. GEORG EISLER - People, Places and Politics. Until 17 Feb. Mon-Fri 10-5.30; Sats 11-1.

FISCHER FINE ART 30 King James's, SW1 839 3942. EISLER - People, Places and Until 17 Feb. Mon-Fri 10-5.30; 1.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Piccadilly W1. Recorded info 01-439 4996/7. TOULOUSE-LAUTREC: The Graphic Works - Extended due to pop demand to 5 Feb. Open daily 10-6 inc. (reduced rate Sun until 1.45 pm)

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp. Camden Tube 485 2443 Oliver Schmitz's MAPANTSULA (15) Progs 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.50.

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 Barbara Hendricks in Puccini's LA BOHEME directed by Luigi Comencini (U) Progs. 1.50 4.05, 6.25, 8.45.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737. LOUIS MALLE'S AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS (PG) Film at 1 30 (not Sun) 3.45 6.20 8.50. "This is a film I urge you to see" Barry Norman Film '88.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 BARBARA HERSHEY in A WORLD APART (PG) Film at 1.45 (not Sun) 4.00 6.15 8.40

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805. BEN KINGSLEY, CHARLES DANCE, HELEN MIRREN in PASCALI'S ISLAND (15) Film at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10 6.20 8.40.

LUMIERE St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 Mike Leigh's HIGH HOPES (15). Progs 1.40 4.00 6.20 8.45 & Late Night Fri/Sat 11.15pm.

MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235 4225 Maggie Smith & Bob Hoskins THE LONELY PASSION OF JUDITH HEARNE (15) Daily: 2.30 4.45 7.00 9.15.

ODEON HAYMARKET 839 7097 All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome. THE DRESSMAKER (15) Sep progs Daily 1.15 3.45 6.15 8 45. Late Night Shows Sat 11.15.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE 930 6111 Info 930 4250 / 4259. All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/Amex) 930 3232 or 839 1929. 24 hour service. DEAD RINGERS (18) Doors open 12.15 2.55 5.40 8.35. Late Night Show Fri/Sat Doors open 11.45.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH 723 2011 All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome. RED HEAT (18) 12.55 3.30 6.00 8.35. Late Night Show Fri/Sat 11.30. Others to be advised.

ODEON WEST END Leicester Square 930 5252 All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/Amex) 930 7615, 24 hour service. RED HEAT (18) Sep progs daily 1.00 3.25 6.00 8.45. Late Night Show Fri/Sat 11.45.

RENOIR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (Russell Square Tube) 837 8402
1 Terence Davies's DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES (15) Progs 1.20 3.15 5.10 7.10 9.10
2 Clint Eastwood's BIRD (15) Progs 1.30 4.40 7.55.

TO PLACE YOUR ENTERTAINMENT ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES
TRADE ADVERTISERS
TEL: 01-481 1920
ADVERTISING FAX NO.
01-481 9313
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS
TEL: 01 481 4000
YOU MAY USE YOUR ACCESS, AMEX, DINERS OR VISA CARD

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Greta Carslaw

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM. **6.35** Leon Errol in *One Live Ghost* (b/w). **6.55** Weather **7.00** Breakfast Time with John Stapleton and Sally Magnusson. Includes national and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25**; regional news and travel reports at **7.27, 7.57** and **8.27. 8.55** Regional news and weather **9.00** News and weather followed by Open Air. Viewers pass comment on yesterday's television programmes. To participate ring 061 814 0424 **9.20** Kilroy! Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a discussion on a topical subject **10.00** News and weather followed by Going for Gold. Quiz series (r). **10.25** Children's BBC introduced by Andy Crane begins with Playbus **10.50** Paddington (r). **10.55** Five to Eleven. Estelle Kohler with a reading **11.00** News and weather followed by Open Air **12.00** News and weather followed by Daytime Live **12.55** Regional news and weather **1.00** One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather. **1.30** Neighbours. Daphne is upset by the identity of Amanda s latest "man-hunt" target, and Mrs Mangel, now out of hospital, wastes little time in slipping back into her spiteful ways **1.50** Film: Pride and Prejudice (1940, b/w) starring Laurance Olivier, Greer Garson and Maureen O'Sullivan. An adaptation of Jane Austen's romantic comedy about five sisters looking for suitable husbands. With Edmund Gwenn and Mary Boland. Directed by Robert Z. Leonard **3.50** Is That a Fact? A look at the truth behind legends **4.05** SuperTed (r). **4.15** Jackanory. Elaine R. Smith with the fifth and final part of Emily Rodda's *The Best-Kept Secret.* **4.30** Survival Challenge presented by Richard Crane. His guest is record-breaking Himalayas runner Helene Diamantides **4.55** Newsround Extra. Roger Finn visits Bangladesh to see how the people are recovering from last year's floods **5.05** Grange Hill. Episode four of the 20-part serial. (Ceefax) **5.35** Neighbours (r). **6.00** Six O'Clock News with Nicholas Witchell and Philip Hayton. Weather **6.30** London Plus **7.00** Wogan welcomes Kathleen Dayus for the second time this week, Margi Clarke and Peter Scudamore. Plus music from Mike and the Mechanics **7.40** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em. Comedy series starring Michael Crawford and Michele Dotrice. This evening Frank and Betty decide to take a second honeymoon – but Frank gets on the wrong train (r). **8.10** Dynasty. A new series begins with Alexis's life under threat; Blake trying to come to terms with Krystle's disappearance; and Fallon intruding on the romance between Jeff and Sammy Jo. (Ceefax) **9.00** Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Regional news and weather **9.30** Making Out. Episode two of the comedy drama series about a group of women working in an electronics factory (Ceefax) **10.20** On His Way to the Club. A film autobiography of writer, broadcaster and campaigner Ludovic Kennedy **11.30** Film: The End (1978) starring Burt Reynolds, Dom De Luise, Sally Field and Joanne Woodward. A black comedy about a man who has a short time to live, but discovers that solace is difficult to find. Suicide is an option – but even that has its complications. Directed by Burt Reynolds **1.10am** Weather

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax **9.30** Daytime on Two: Spanish for beginners **9.45** Changes in Scotland's industrial structure **10.05** Look and read **10.25** Scotland's feathered winter visitors **10.45** Storytime **11.03** Rehearsing a musical **11.25** Wondermaths **11.40** Winter **12.00** Working in a hospital **12.20** Romantic fiction **12.55** Hungarian youth **1.25** Pie in the Sky (r). **1.40** Walrus **2.00** News and weather followed by You and Me **2.15** Sport on Friday. Darts: the Embassy World Professional Championship; Rallying: from Sweden; and Football: a review of the FA Cup third round action. Includes news and weather at **3.00** and **3.50** **4.00** Catchword **4.30** The Pop Shop. Modern pawnbrokers **5.00** Handmade. Home crafts series **5.30** Holiday '89 (r). (Ceefax) **6.00** Film: Wonderful Country (1959) starring Robert Mitchum and Julie London. Western adventure about a gunman who joins up with the Texas Rangers. Directed by Robert Parrish **7.35** Bilko (b/w). Joan threatens to leave the army after Bilko forgets St Valentine's Day. Starring Phil Silvers (r). **8.00** Women of Our Century. The Hon Miriam Rothschild is interviewed by Polly Toynbee (see Variations for other regions' programmes). **8.30** Wildlife Showcase. The wildlife of the Bellinger River Valley, between Sydney and Brisbane (r). (Ceefax) **9.00** A Bit of Fry and Laurie. A new comedy series starring Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie **9.30** Arena: Blackpool. (see Choice) **10.30** Newsnight **11.15** Weather **11.20** World Darts. The semifinals of the Embassy World Professional Championship, introduced by Tony Gubba from the Lakeside Country Club, Surrey **12.35am** Film: Henri (1986) starring Eric Brisebois. French-Canadian made drama about an adolescent coming to terms with the death of his mother. Directed by François Labonté. *Ends at* **2.05.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with News and The Morning Programme, presented by Richard Keys; **7.00** News followed by Good Morning Britain introduced by Mike Morris and Kathy Rochford; **8.00** News; **9.00** News and After Nine which includes Russell Grant's horoscope predictions. **9.25** The Pyramid Game. Game show hosted by Steve Jones. The guests are Sally James and Simon Williams **9.55** Thames news and weather **10.00** The Time. . .The Place. . . Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject **10.40** This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes advice on speaking in public; and Jan Leeming looking at popular crafts. Plus national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** **12.10** Rainbow. Learning with puppets series **12.30** Take the High Road. Sorry reveals a part of his hidden past in order to help a friend; and a reluctant tup causes a row. **1.00** News at One with Julia Somerville **1.20** Thames news and weather **1.30** Snooker. Semifinals action in the Mercantile Credit Classic introduced by Tony Francis **2.00** The Bill. Omnibus edition (r) **2.55** Snooker. Further coverage from Norbreck Castle, Blackpool. **3.25** Thames news and weather **3.30** Sons and Daughters. Australian family drama serial **4.00** Five Minute Wonder. Gabrielle Bradshaw constructs a crocodile **4.05** Hot Dog with Marcus Clarke and Mak Wilson **4.20** Scooby Doo. Cartoon series (r). **4.45** Round the Bend with guests Aswad **5.10** Snooker Update **5.15** Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness **5.45** News with Alastair Stewart **6.00** The Weekend Live. The first of a new series presented by Mike Smith and Joanna Kaye **6.05** LWT News with Anna Maria Ashe **6.15** Friday Now introduced by Pam Royle **7.00** High St Blues. Comedy series about a group of shopkeepers fighting off a plan to demolish their stores in order to build a hypermarket. Starring Phil McCall, Ron Pember, Elizabeth Stewart and Valerie Walsh. (Oracle) **7.30** Surprise Surprise. Cilla Black with Bob Carolgees and Gordon Burns spring surprises on members of the studio audience and viewers at home **8.30** The Two of Us. Domestic comedy series starring Nicholas Lyndhurst and Janet Dibley as a couple living together in happy disharmony. This week posing nude for their respective art courses homework causes friction. (Oracle) **9.00** A Bit of a Do. (Oracle) (see Choice) **10.00** News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall **10.30** LWT News and weather **10.35** The London Programme investigates the plight of the teenage homeless in the capital **11.00** The Weekend Live Update **11.05** Snooker. The conclusion of the semifinals of the Mercantile Credit Classic, introduced by Dickie Davies, from Norbreck Castle, Blackpool. **12.30am** The Ray Bradbury Theatre: Marionettes, Inc. James Coco stars as a man who has a good job, a nice home and a loving wife, but feels himself trapped. With Leslie Nielsen. Followed by news headlines **1.00** Night Network includes videos, news, reviews, cartoons, a quiz and musical guests. **4.00** American College Football. **5.00** ITN Morning News. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

8.30 Sesame Street. **9.30** Schools **12.00** The Abbott and Costello Show (b/w). **12.30** Business Daily. **1.00** Open at One. Magazine programme about Open College courses **1.30** Open Mind. This first of a new series features Professor John Ashworth, vice-chancellor of Salford University, on his controversial ideas on education and industry **2.00** Reagan on Reagan. The first of a three-part series (r). **2.45** Film: So You Think You're a Nervous Wreck (1946, b/w). Joe McDoakes, a man of many complexes, consults a psychiatrist. Directed by Richard L. Bare **3.00** Film: Dreaming (1944, b/w) starring Flanagan and Allen. Wartime comedy directed by John Baxter **4.30** Countdown. **5.00** Mork & Mindy. Comedy **5.30** Redbrick (r). (Oracle) **6.00** Faerie Tale Theatre: Goldilocks and the Three Bears starring Tatum O'Neal **7.00** Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Anne Perkins. Weather **7.55** Book Choice. Poet Peter Porter reviews Douglas Dunn's *Northlight.* (Oracle) **8.00** Eric Gill (1882-1940). An assessment of the work of the artist-craftsman **9.00** Vintage. Hugh Johnson examines wine's relationships with religions **9.30** The Golden Girls. (Oracle) **10.00** East Meets Wax. Ruby Wax tours the nightspots of the Soviet Union **11.35** It's Showtime at the Apollo. A new variety series from the celebrated Harlem night-club. **12.30am** Film: Murders in the Zoo (1933, b/w) starring Charles Ruggles. A zoo chief plots to murder his wife's lover. Directed by Edward Sutherland **1.40** Film: Sexton Blake and the Hooded Terror (1938, b/w) starring George Curzon. The celebrated detective is on the trail of a criminal organization. Directed by George King. Ends at **2.55**

Marriage of opposites

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark



Three's a crowd: Nicola Pagett, David Jason and Gwen Taylor in a new six-part comedy set in Yorkshire (ITV, 9.00pm)

● David Nobbs's A Bit of a Do (ITV, 9.00pm) is a comedy of social embarrassment laced with elements of black and surreal humour which recall the same writer's *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin.* The catalyst is a wedding in a Yorkshire town between the daughter of a smart dentist and the son of a self-made manufacturer of coal scuttles. The jokes flow from the inability of the two families to find common ground because of their different social origins. In more than its geography, the series recalls Alan Bennett's documentary about his working-class parents finding themselves out of their depth in smart hotels David Jason plays the coal scuttle king, a toned-down version of his *Fools and Horses* Del Boy with that splendid comedy actress, Gwen Taylor, as his gauche and dowdy wife. As delivered by Taylor, lines like "the tuna fish vol-au-vents are quite an eye-opener" take on a rough poetry Nicola Pagett is the classy dentist's wife who manages to cross the social divide by seducing Jason at the wedding reception

● In Arena (BBC2, 9.30pm) Blackpool is described as unashamedly Northern and vulgar and (by Norman Tebbit) as a British Las Vegas. The rain sweeps down and gales blow through empty deck chairs. But it still has more visitors a year than Greece and offers more holiday beds than Portugal. Charlie Pattinson's affectionate film is stuffed with local characters like a memory man, a tattooist and a fortune teller but the highlight is when 42 members of the George Formby Society get out their ukeleles and accompany a celluloid image of their hero in "A Little Stick of Blackpool Rock".

Radio 1

VHF Stereo – all day in London (104.8), the Midlands (98.4), the North (98.8), South Wales, Avon and Somerset (98.7), Oxfordshire (98.2) and central Scotland (98.6) and Belfast (96.0) **MW** (medium wave) News on the half-hour from **6.30am** until **8.30pm**, then at **10.30** and **12.30** midnight **5.30** Adrian John **7.00** Simon Mayo **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30** Newsbeat **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.34** Singled Out **7.00** Jeff Young s Big Beat **9.00** Hey Rrradio!!! **9.30** In Concert featuring Steve Earle and The Dukes **10.30** The Friday Rock Show **12.30-2.00** Richard Skinner

Radio 2

MW (medium wave) News on the hour **4.00** Steve Madden **5.30** Chris Stuart **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Adrian Love **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Memories for You **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45 9.00** The Organist Entertains **10.00** The Golden Years **10.30** Smiling Through **11.00** Billy Butler **1.00am** presents Nightride **2.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **7.00** World News **7.09** 24 Hours followed by Financial News **7.30** Market Leaders **8.00** World News **8.09** Words of Faith **8.15** Music Now **8.45** Images of Britain **9.00** World News **9.09** Review of the British Press **9.15** The World Today **9.30** Financial News **9.45** Seven Seas **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Focus on Faith **10.30** The Great Bakers **11.00** World News **11.09** News about Britain **11.15** Profile **11.30** Londres Midi **12.00** Newsreel **12.15** Market Leaders **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** World News **1.09** 24 Hours **1.30** John Peel **2.00** Outlook, opening with World News **2.45** Nature Now **3.00** Newsreel **3.15** Music Now **3.45** Images of Britain **4.00** World News **4.08** News about Britain **4.15** Science in Action **4.45** The World Today **5.00** World News **5.08** Commentary **5.15** English by Radio **5.45** Londres Sow **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Programmes in German **8.00** World News **8.09** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Science in Action **9.00** News Summary **9.01** Sports Roundup **9.15** From One to New Country **9.30** People and Politics **10.00** Newshour **11.00** World News **11.09** Commentary **11.15** From the Weeklies **11.30** Milltrack 3 **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30** Personal View **12.45** Recording of the Week **1.00** News Summary **1.01** Outlook **1.25** Financial News **1.30** Classical Record Review **1.45** Book Choice **1.50** New Ideas **2.00** World News **2.08** Review of the British Press **2.15** Network UK **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** World News **3.09** News about Britain **3.15** The World Today **3.30** The Vintage Chart Show **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** The World Today **4.45** Morgenmagazin **5.45** 648 News Headlines **5.55** Financial News **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Londres Magn

Radio 3

6.55 Weather, followed by News Headlines **7.00** Morning Concert: Beethoven (Sonata in A, Op 69; Mstislav Rostropovich, cello and Sviatoslav Richter piano) **7.30** News **7.35** Morning Concert (cont'd): Berlioz (Royal Hunt and Storm – The Trojans: Chorus and Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden under Colin Davis); Ravel (Piano Concerto in G; Philharmonia Orchestra under Ettore Gracis with Arrigo Benedetti Michelangeli, piano); Offenbach (Candide – Qui vers celui que j'adore – Robinson Crusoe: Suisse Romande Orchestra under Richard Bonynge with Joan Sutherland, soprano); Milhaud (Suite provençale: Monte Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra under Georges Prêtre) **8.30** News **8.35** Composers of the Week: At the Court of Mannheim. Johann Stamitz (Symphony in B flat for strings: Slovak Chamber Orchestra under Bohdan Warchal); Christian Cannabich (Sinfonia concertante in C: Camerata Bern under Thomas Fürn); Ludwig Lebrun (Oboe Concerto No 2 in G minor: Camerata Bern under Thomas Fürn with Heinz Holliger, oboe); Carl Stamitz (Symphony in E flat – Echo: Kurpfalz Chamber Orchestra under Wolfgang Hofmann) **9.35** Winds of Change: City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Wind Ensemble under Okko Kamu with Michelle Campanella, piano, the Melos String Quartet and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Carlo Maria Giulini, perform works by Wagner, Berlioz, Arriaga and Schumann **12.05** BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Conducted by Jerzy Maksymiuk. Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis); Mozart (Symphony No 41 in C – Jupiter) **1.00** News **1.05** Chamber Music from Manchester: Kevin Swallow and John Wilson (piano duet) play Schumann's Bilder aus Osten, Donizetti's Sonatas in A and F, Casella s Pupazzetti, Op 27 and Pick-Mangiagalli's Three Miniatures, Op 4 **2.00** Brandis String Quartet: Haydn (Quartet in G minor, Op 74 No 3 – Rider); Hindemith (Quartet No 3); Brahms (Quartet in B flat, Op 67) **3.30** Rubenstein on Record: Penultimate programme in the series featuring the record legacy of Artur Rubenstein. Introduced by Graham Sheffield. Liszt (Consolation No 3 in D flat; Hungarian Rhapsody No 10 in E); Ravel (Piano Trio in A minor: Jascha Heifetz, violin and Gregor Piatgorsky, cello); Schubert (Impromptu in A flat, D899, No 4); Beethoven (Piano trio in B flat, Op 97 – Archduke: Jascha Heifetz, violin and Emanuel Feuermann, cello); Chopin (Mazurkas, Op 59) **5.00** Music for Flute and Guitar: Played by Judith Hall, flute and Timothy Walker, guitar. Ibert (Entr acte); Carulli (Serenade in C); Benoit Schlosberg (Trois esquisses); David Bedford (Memories of Ullapool); Rodrigo (Serenata al alba del dia) **5.30** A Passage to Penge (new series): Written and read by Brian Wright. (1) The Penge Meridian (see Choice) **5.45** Bird Lives: Charles Fox presents the third of six programmes about the influential American jazz saxophonist Charlie Parker **6.15** The Works: With David Owen Norris **7.00** News **7.05** Third Ear: The Gauguin exhibition at the Grande Palais in Paris **7.30** BBC Philharmonic Concert: Live from the Free Trade Hall, Manchester. John McCabe (Fire at Dunigal); Korngold (Concerto for Piano, left hand: Gary Grafman, piano); Strauss (Symphonic Poem – Ein Heldenleben). In the interval, Michael Kennedy looks at the appearances of Strauss s wife in many works **9.40** The Friday Play: An American Dream, by Edward Albee (r) **10.45** Heino Eller (Born in 1887): Elegia for harp and strings (Scottish National Orchestra under Neeme Jarvi with Eluned Pierce, harp) **11.00** Composers of the Week: Dabussy – The Final Years: Trois poèmes de Stephane Mallarme, Berceuse heroique; Sonata for cello an piano; Sonata for flute, viola and harp; Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maison; Sonata for violin and piano) **12.00** News **12.05** Closedown

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: 6.30pm-7.00 Wales Today **1.10am-1.15** News and weather **SCOTLAND: 10.50am-11.00** Dotaman **6.30pm-7.00** Reporting Scotland **10.20** Left, Right and Centre **10.50** On His Way to the Club **12.00** Film: The End **1.35am** Weather **NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.35pm** Today's Sport **5.40-6.00** Inside Ulster **6.00** Neighbours **6.58-7.00** Inside Ulster Update **ENGLAND: 6.30pm-7.00** Regional news magazines

BBC2 WALES: 6.00pm-6.30 Public Account **SCOTLAND: 6.00pm-6.30** Brag **NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.25am-10.45** Ceefax **6.00pm-6.30** Young Musicians **ENGLAND: 6.00pm-6.30** Midlands: Birmingham, North: Live at the Astoria. North-east: Out of Our Heads; North-west: See For Yourself; South: Seen Two, South-west: Through the Garden Centre, West: Hardy's Wessex

ANGLIA As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** News **1.30** Gardens for All **2.00-3.00** Country Practice **6.00-7.00** About Anglia **10.35** Cross Question **11.35** Snooker **12.30am** Throb **2.00** Rock of Europe **3.00-5.00** Film: Rio Conchos.

BORDER As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Take Six Cooks **1.20-1.30** News **3.30-4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Lookaround **6.30-7.00** Take the High Road **10.35** Day in the Life **12.30am** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

CENTRAL As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** News **3.30-4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** News **6.45-7.00** Central Post **10.40** Made in Birmingham **11.40** Swallow Thist **12.15am** Film: Take Me High **1.55** Ruby Turner **2.25** Baker's Dozen **3.25** UB40 CCCP **4.00-5.00** Rattle on the Record.

CHANNEL As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** News **1.30** Farmhouse Kitchen **2.00-2.55** Rags to Riches **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **6.00** Channel Report **6.30** Barnstormers **6.40-7.00** Time Out **10.35** ...Etc **11.35** Ski-Tips **12.05am** Snooker **12.30** V **1.30** Throb **2.00** Night Network **4.00** Facing South **4.30-5.00** Jack Thompson Down Under.

GRAMPIAN As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Chain Letters **1.20-1.30** Grampian news **6.00** North Tonight **6.30-7.00** Big Break **10.35-11.05** Crosstre **12.30am** Easy Street **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

GRANADA As London except: **1.20pm** Granada Reports **1.30** Week in View

HTV WEST As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Falcon Crest **6.00** News **6.45-7.00** Your Say **10.35-11.05** Russ Conway Story **12.30am** Film: Smile, Jelly, You're Dead **2.00** Night Network **4.00** Good Life Guide **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **6.00-6.30** News **7.00pm** Wales at Six **10.35** The Divoced Kingdom **11.35-12.30am** Snooker.

SCOTTISH As London except: **1.00** Venture **1.20-1.30** Scotland Today **2.00-2.55** Falcon Crest **05.00** Scotland Today **6.30-7.00** Take the High Road **10.35-11.05** Scotsport Extra **Time 12.30am** Jazz **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

TSW As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** The Sullivans **6.00** Today **6.30-7.00** Only When I Laugh **10.35-11.05** Sledge Hammer! **12.30am** Reality Wars Tales **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

TVS As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30** Farmhouse Kitchen **2.00-2.55** Rags to Riches **3.30-4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Coast to Coast **6.40-7.00** Time Out **10.35** ...Etc **11.35** Ski Tips **12.05am** Snooker **12.30** V **1.30** Throb **2.00** Night Network **4.00** Facing South **4.30-5.00** Jack Thompson Down Under.

TYNE TEES As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** News **6.00-7.00** Northern Life **10.35** WKRP in Cincinnati **12.30am** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

ULSTER As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** Newsline **330-4.00** Glenroe **6.00** Six Tonight **6.30-7.00** Sportsbeat **10.35** Witness **10.40-11.05** Sledge Hammer **12.30am** Alfred Hitchcock **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** Police Precinct.

YORKSHIRE As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** News **6.00** Calendar **6.30-7.00** Dear Miriam **10.35-11.05** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **12.30am** Twilight Zone **1.00** James Whale Radio Show **2.00** Night Network **4.00-5.00** America Reports.

S4C Starts: **8.30am** Tourism **9.00** Mantering Mis **9.30** Schools **12.10pm** Pobol Y Cwm **12.30** Newyddion **12.35** Brwsan **1.00** Sesame Street **1.30** Business Daily **2.00** Six Centuries of Verse **2.30** Film: Under Milk Wood **4.30** Fifteen to One **5.00** Lost in Space **6.00** Newyddion **6.15** Sblat! **6.40** Pobol Y Cwm **7.00** Amser Chwarae **7.30** Jabas **8.00** Cefn Gwlad **8.30** Newyddion **8.55** Y Byd Ar Bedwar **9.40** Lobster Comedies **10.00** Golden Girls **10.30** Peter Usinnov **11.25** It's Showtime at the Apollo **12.30am** Film: Murders in the Zoo **1.40** Film: Sexton Blake and the Hooded Terror' **2.55** Closedown.

RTE 1 Starts: **2.05pm** The Brothers **3.00** Live at Three **4.00** Sons and Daughters **4.30** Mapp and Lucia **5.30** The Sullivans **6.00** Angelus **6.01** Six-One **7.00** Play the Game **7.30** Head to Toe **8.00** China Beach **9.00** News **9.30** Film: Yeast **11.50** News, Closedown.

NETWORK 2 Starts: **2.30pm** Bosco **3.00** Robin and Rose **3.15** The Muppet Babies **3.40** T-Bag **4.05** Top Cat **4.30** Happy Birthday **4.50** Ten Minutes Tales **5.00** Newsline **5.25** Danger Bay **6.00** Jo-Maxu **6.30** Home and Away **7.00** Nuacht **7.05** Curse! **7.30** What's My Line? **8.00** Basketball **9.30** The Avengers **10.30** Film: Liebelei **12.00** Closedown.

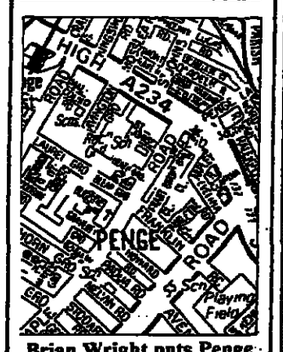
Radio 4

LW (long wave) (s) stereo on **VHF** **5.55** Shipping Forecast **6.00** News briefing: Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day (s) **6.30** Today presented by John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor, incl **6.30, 7.0, 7.30, 8.0, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55, 8.57** Weather **9.00** News **9.05** Desert Island Discs: This week, Sue Lawley's guest is Twiggy (s) (r) **9.45** Feedback (new series) Chris Dunkley of the *Financial Times* airs listeners' comments on BBC programmes and policy **10.00** News: International Assignment **10.30** Morning Story: The Egg Room; by G Nelson. Read by Jan Francis **10.45** Daily Service (s) **11.00** News: The Idea of Europe: Richard Mayne looks back at how the boundaries of Europe came to be established: (2) Differences (r) **11.47** Enquire Within with Dilly Barlow. The guest is linguist and dialect expert, Stanley Ellis (r) **12.00** News; You and Yours with John Waite **12.25** The Food Programme with Derek Cooper: Bio-dynamics **12.55** Weather **1.00** The World at One: Presented by Brian Widlake **1.40** The Archers **1.55** Shipping Forecast **2.00** News; Woman's Hour: Today's programme includes an interview with Ben Kingsley, who talks about his career and his new film *Pascali's Island*, released today. The latest news on fluoride and its future disappearance in our water supply after the Water Authority privatization is discussed. Also, Caroline Hutton, an independent record distributor, discusses the role of women in music today, and a look at news programmes for the Asian communities in Britain **3.00** News; The Hunchback of Notre Dame: by Victor Hugo. Second of five parts dramatized by Catherine Lucy Czerkawska. With Christopher Bowen, Dermot Crowley, Jack Klaff as Quasimodo and Emily Morgab as Esmeralda: (2) Monster and Maiden (s) **4.00** News **4.05** A Shut Mouth and Wide Open Ears: Chris Stuart meets champion bird-breeder Ted Hounslow **4.30** Kaleidoscope (r) **5.00** PM: Presented by Frances Coverdale and Gordon Clough **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather **6.00** The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report **6.30** Going Places: Clive Jacobs, Alanah Martin and Tom Boswell with travel and transport news **7.00** News **7.05** The Archers **7.20** Pick of the Week: Presented by Margaret Howard (s) **8.05** Any Questions? From Hereford. Chaired by Jonathan Dimbleby, the guests include David Blunkett MP, Rosie Barnes, MP and Michael Heseltine, MP and Jean Rook **8.50** Stop Press with Geoffrey Goodman **9.15** Sound Effects Safari: Nick Baker in the BBC Sound Archives. This week he visits a Stones party **9.30** Letter from America by Alistair Cooke **9.45** Kaleidoscope: Who killed Prees Heath?: Eleanor Cooke captures the atmosphere, in the form of documentary and poetry, of an area of land on the Shropshire/Cheshire border, which over the years has seen Cromwell's troops, Second World War planes and also, a selection of rare butterflies **10.15** A Book at Bedtime: Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy, abridged by Donald Bancroft. Read by Kenneth Haigh (final part) **10.29** Weather **10.30** The World Tonight: Presented by Richard Kershaw **11.00** Today in Parliament **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **11.35** Week Ending: Satirical review of the week s news with Bill Wallis, David Tate and Sally Grace (s) **12.00** News incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **VHF** as LW except: **11.00am-12.00** For Schools: **11.0** Earth Search **11.20** Playtime **11.35** Music Workshop **1.55-3.00pm** For Schools: **1.55** Listening Corner **2.5** Let's Join In **2.25** The Song Tree **2.40** The Friday Serial **5.5-5.55** PM (continued) **12.30-1.10am** Schools Night-Time Help Yourself: Business German.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m,1089kHz/275m;VHF-88-90.2. Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/261m;VHF 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m;VHF95.8. Greater London Radio: 1458kHz/206m;VHF 94.9; World Service: MF648kHz/463m.

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle



Brian Wright puts Penge on the map (R3, 5.30pm).

● Inspired, no doubt, by the thought that nothing succeeds like excess, Brian Wright names his London suburban homeland 32 times in 15 minutes in A Passage to Penge (Radio 3, 5.30pm). You don't have to take my word for it: he gives the tally himself at the end of his satirical "confession" – and then does it a 33rd time for luck. Not that he needs any. To much critical acclaim (to which I was glad to add my mite), he has put SE23 unattractively on the map twice before on Radio 3, and by the time his new 10-part series ends, we shall be as familiar as he is with every inch of urban scrub and every dog-fouled pavement in his highly individual prospect of Penge. Thanks to him, there is no chance of Penge being promoted by the Tourist Board; he concludes, for instance, that a Penge Hilton is an unlikely project this side of Armageddon. I cannot decide whether he is speaking enviously or scornfully when he says that, whenever Radio 3 announcers mention Penge, they make it sound like Oberammergau at Passion time. There is no such reverence in his own voice.

The perfect introduction to geography

THE TIMES ATLAS OF THE WORLD



FAMILY EDITION

£14.95

EVERY FRIDAY HUGH JOHNSON PRESENTS 'VINTAGE'. NOW HE PRESENTS THE PERFECT ACCOMPANIMENT.



'VINTAGE' CASE £49.95.

Hugh Johnson's 13-part series on the history of wine continues tonight on Channel 4.

As President of The Sunday Times Wine Club, we decided to celebrate the event with a special 'Vintage' case of 12 wines, all reflected in the series.



Champagne, Port, five whites, four reds and a rosé make up the case which comes complete with tasting notes by Hugh Johnson.

These fine wines can be yours for just £49.95, including delivery and a year's membership to The Wine Club . . .

With a 'Vintage' case, you can enjoy the programmes in the only way possible – with a bottle of wine at hand. For details on how to order your case, look for the coupon on page 56 of this week's Sunday Times magazine, or phone us now on (0734) 472288.

THE SUNDAY TIMES WINE CLUB

Bugging row hits Young Tories

By Michael Horsnell

A *right-wing* political researcher at Conservative Central Office in London has been blacklisted by the party after an embarrassing Watergate-style bugging incident at a confidential meeting of Young Conservatives.

Police are investigating allegations that he may have been involved in the bugging of a hotel room booked by young Tories campaigning for the re-election of Mr Martin Woodroofe, the politically moderate YC chairman.

In a response that will revive Conservative despair at the antics of Tory youth, Mr Andrew Tinney, the right-wing challenger for the YC chairmanship, last night said the bug had been planted by Mr Woodroofe's supporters in a campaign to discredit him.

His accusation was supported by a source claiming to be a Woodroofe supporter who said he saw the bugging device before it was planted by a member of the Woodroofe camp.

Detectives, who have taken possession of the sophisticated battery-powered device, are to interview the researcher.

Conservative headquarters *confirmed that the man*, a paid freelance researcher, has been told his services would no longer be required. Young Conservative sources say the incident has prompted a review of security at Conservative Central Office.

It is also said police have been asked to carry out a surveillance sweep of meeting rooms booked at Southport next month for the YC annual conference, which will be attended by government ministers. Officials at Conservative Central Office, who have carried out an inquiry into the affair, would not confirm either suggestion and said security is always under review.

The incident occurred on Sunday afternoon at the Dun Cow Hotel, Dunchurch, near Rugby, when about 50 Woodroofe supporters met to discuss his campaign against Mr Tinney for re-election. When the meeting ended an unidentified man entered, saying he wanted access to the room.

Delegates were suspicious and discovered no booking had been made for the room after their meeting.

In jest they searched the room for a bug – and found one.

A van had been parked outside during the meeting and when the YCs decided to investigate the van drove away.

It was traced to a van hire firm in the area which yesterday declined to confirm who had booked it.

The matter was reported to Conservative Central Office.

Mr Tinney said: "I am convinced my opponent's supporters are responsible for this bugging. It's an effective way of smearing us."

Defiant Shamir prays amid the protests



Ignoring an angry crowd, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Prime Minister, prays yesterday for a dead settler as Rabbi Yosef Eliyahu looks on (Report, page 6)

Arafat sees Britain as crucial in peace process

From Christopher Walker
Tunis

Britain moved firmly into the centre of the Middle East negotiating stage yesterday when Mr William Waldegrave, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, arrived here for talks with Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, designed to set a negotiating agenda for contacts between the PLO and Israel.

The meeting, scheduled for today, will be the first between a British minister and the PLO chief. It will be followed in March by a visit by Mr Waldegrave to Jordan and Israel and it is seen as paving the way for contact between *Mr Arafat and Sir Geoffrey* Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

PLO leaders have stressed in interviews that Britain is now seen as having a special role to play in the peace process and, because of Mrs Thatcher's special relationship with Washington, much greater influence *than the other EEC nations.*

Mr Arafat is concerned that he may not be able to control "extremists" in the Occupied Territories from using weapons against the Israelis, the shadow foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Gerald Kaufman, says today. In an article in *The Times* on his three-hour meeting with the PLO chairman, he says *Mr Arafat is worried about Syria* and Libya stepping up involvement in the uprising......Page 12

Speaking after meeting Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow Foreign Secretary – who is working in close co-operation with the Government in trying to devise an agenda for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations – Mr Arafat stressed the importance of the part being played by Britain.

"Britain has a historical responsibility, a political responsibility and a moral responsibility," he *told journalists* at a heavily guarded villa here.

Britain's central role was being emphasized by British officials who share the view that Britain stands more chance of influencing Israel than any of the other EEC states. It was stressed that Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has recently been invited to visit London.

A senior PLO source said: "Britain has a greater economic interest in the Middle East than the other European states and the influence with America necessary to play a key part. That is why we consider her position at this moment as so crucial."

Mr Waldegrave made clear at an airport news conference that he was keen to play the role of middle-man. "I want to discuss with Mr Arafat the next practical steps to move the peace process forward. *I will be emphasizing* our view that the important thing now is not so much rhetoric and symbolism but actually producing a negotiating agenda which makes sense," he said.

"We have been putting it to our European partners that one of the things which needs to be done right now is to engage the Israelis in practical discourse rather than just cornering them and belabouring."

Mr Waldegrave said *PLO* requests for a meeting between Mr Arafat and Mrs Thatcher would be discussed in Tunis, "to see what is sensible".

Political sketch

No questions but even more bull

The Order Paper for yesterday said *something* about "questions" but there were no questions. Tom King, the Northern Ireland Secretary, was present to receive a *number of statements* from other members, but none took the nature of an inquiry.

That did not stop him from following each with a *statement of his own*. Nothing that was said revealed any desire on anybody's part to know or consider the opinion of anybody else. Nothing that was said betrayed a thirst for further information. Nothing that was said was new.

Then came Prime Minister's Questions. Just one real question was asked during this session. It came from the Prime Minister. She asked Labour's Jimmy Dunnachie (Glasgow, Pollok) what he had just said. He repeated his statement, whereupon she made a statement of her own.

From her own side came contributions that could hardly even be called statements, let alone questions. It is hard to describe them, as our language lacks a single word for the extended passage of a wet human tongue over the soft leather of a lady's court-shoe. Let us just say that, if PM's Questions is to expose government to scrutiny, then the hour was not Parliament's finest.

From the Opposition came Mr Kinnock's usual *attempts* to light a damp squib, which spluttered for a moment and then went out. Labour's contribution was momentarily enlivened by an alarming statement from Allen McKay about what sounded like "wisteria in chicken." Perhaps this is a new flowering of the *nouvelle cuisine* among yuppies.

What Mrs Thatcher referred to in her reply was "listeria" – which sounded like a disinfectant. But then anything she says does. Revealingly, her homework had been meticulous enough to include quotes from the Audit Commission to answer *the Tories' Phillip Oppenheim* on his Amber Valley District Council, but did not extend to remembering (or caring) which parties Opposition members belonged to. The Democrats' *Mrs Ray Michie* (Argyll & Bute) got an answer about Labour's policy on devolution. Then we moved to "none-of-my" Business Questions, where the Leader of the House received statements from almost everyone but volunteered none of his own.

The Chancellor's Autumn Statement was, in its way, a remarkable occasion. Seldom can a Chancellor have made a more relaxed, jokey speech, while standing upon shakier logical ground and facing (in Gordon Brown) such an effective parliamentary opponent. The inference must be that the Opposition is simply discounted.

You might think that the Government is confident of winning the Parliamentary argument – but it goes further. The Conservatives don't even bother.

When the Democrats' Alan Beith protested that you couldn't just ignore mortgage costs when ordinary householders had to pay them, Mr Lawson replied that lots of other countries did. What sort of a reply is that?

Soon he was actually boasting – that "the increase in mortgage payments will mean that people will have to curb spending on other things".

"*Like food*," *shouted someone.*

Increases in interest rates, he had said, was one weapon, not (in spite of accusations) the only one, against inflation. Later, a senior colleague, David Howell, asked *him what the other weapons* were. There weren't any, he replied. Mr Lawson did not *trouble himself* to reconcile that with his earlier remark.

Had there been problems? These had been no more than "changes of pace in the sustained upward march of the British economy". Mr Lawson's ample frame quivered with self-satisfaction. "We have" he said, "the firmest fiscal stance of any government since the war".

It put one in mind of a disco number by a pregnant black artiste called Neneh Cherry, currently in the charts. "We always stand in a buffalo stance" runs her mindless lyric.

"Bullish" was the pundits' word for Mr Lawson's stance yesterday, but, as he squared *his considerable bulk up to* the despatch box, "buffaloish" did spring to mind.

Matthew Parris

Wiring 'not to blame' for jet disaster

Continued from page 1

the Civil Aviation Authority, will repeat them every day.

The engines from the crashed aircraft were sent to France last night, where they will be stripped down and examined. Already it is believed that a bearing fractured in the left engine wrecked the gear box, causing a fire. But preliminary investigations of the right engine have found no evidence of similar failure.

Investigators are now awaiting the full detailed analysis from the flight data recorder to piece together just what was wrong. The tape is still being examined in Farnborough in a highly complex operation that compares the sounds picked up from the cockpit voice recorder with what actually happened to the controls.

In this way, a second-by-second picture can be built up showing which pilot did what at exactly what stage of the flight, and how this was translated into instrument displays and to the movement of key parts of the engine and controls.

Among the mass of data *being analysed is the amount* of vibration shown by both engines during the fatal flight. Severe vibration can necessitate an engine shutdown and is picked up by sensors in the engine and displayed on a small white dial on the right side of the flight deck instrument panel. On a slightly larger panel to its left are *primary engine displays such* as revolutions per minute and fuel flow.

The wiring to these instruments on all aircraft flying with CFM 56 engines was also *checked yesterday and so far* no problem has been found.

Despite Boeing's assurance that engineers have been unable to track down any conceivable way in which the engines could have been "cross-wired", investigators at Farnborough will continue to search for any sign of a short in the wiring and will examine *in detail the way the electronic* plugs were attached to the instruments once they have the flight deck set up in their vast hanger.

Quake survivors found in Armenia

Continued from page 1

to have come through their ordeal in remarkable condition. The sixth, named as Mr Karlen Sarkissyan, suffered a broken arm, but the others had only superficial injuries.

Another survivor, Aikaz Akopyan, aged 50, had medical training and administered massage to the others to relieve their pain. He told Tass that on the day of the earthquake he and five of his neighbours had gone down to the cellar to bring up a number of heavy jugs. "It was there that we heard a strange roar and the walls began crashing down," he said. "*I thought* war had broken out.

"We were never worried about food and drink because there were plenty of jars of salted food, vegetables and fruit compote."

He added: "We were careful about how much of the food we did eat, but didn't doubt for a single moment that we would be found and pulled out."

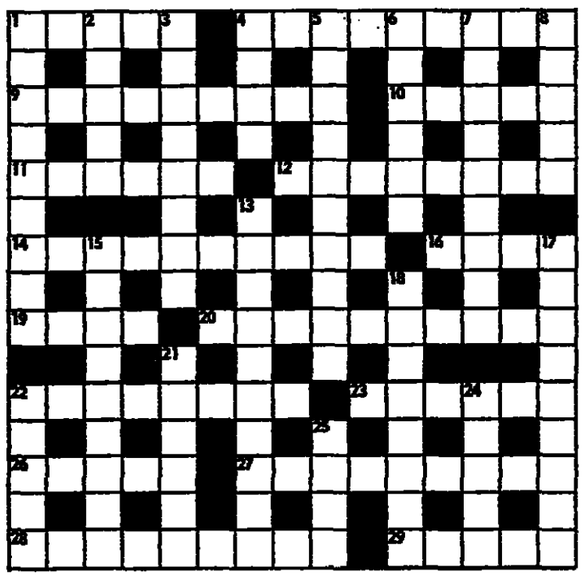
Tass did not say how the six men were found or who rescued them. Rescue work gave way some time ago to efforts to bulldoze the wreck*age to prevent disease spread*ing from decaying bodies.

The earthquake devastated the cities of Leninakan and Kirovakan and virtually flattened Spitak.

Officials said that the last survivors to be rescued in Spitak were found on December 24.

Soviet officials have said that more than 150,000 people are to be sent into Armenia for a two-year programme to rebuild shattered communities.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,878



ACROSS

1 19, we hear, in the crew (5).
4 Tries breaking into *7* for practice (9).
9 Picked up as necessary (6-3).
10 Retiring? Most stuff is (5).
11 She wrote for several speakers (6).
12 Pick up the pieces – in other words, what Nemesis does (8).
14 Second figure is a square (4,6).
16 The copper two fellows hit (4).
19 Back to the old island (4).
20 Monster aspen trees are very shaky (3,7).
22 Found out what Selkirk was (8).
23 Burning young tiger – one to *give you nightmares* (6).
26 Splinter has to come out (5).
27 I got a name – very old, incidentally – . . . (2,7).
28 . . . a bad name, one I try to change (9).
29 Place originally named Arabia, now called Yemen (5).

DOWN

1 Cobalt initially confused with saxe blue – that can be forgiven (9).
2 My toy (5).
3 They'll comprise parallel lines in the main (3,5).
4 Transport gunners over a distance (4).
5 He's reached ruin – what bad luck! (4,6).
6 25 in voice (6).
7 Genuine, simple fellow turned up again (as a starter) (5-4).
8 You need to put down a deposit for a house (5).
13 Tie vampire in knots – that's essential (10).
15 Bird's extremities feature in headlines (5-4).
17 Knowing about it, to ring is *comme il faut* (9).
18 Greek girl accepts a decoration for one of the family (8).
21 Fairground worker's dog? (6).
22 Vehicle in a shed (5).
24 One Parisian joined to one Roman at the time of marriage (5).
25 Outside Russia's capital, agent is active (4).

Concise crossword, page 18

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

SEA SEMANTICS
By Philip Howard

GIRT
a. A Dutch Admiral
b. At close anchor
c. Gyroscopic Internal Radar Transmission

LEVANTER
a. A Mediterranean galley
b. A naval deserter
c. An east wind

CIMON
a. An Athenian Admiral
b. A hot Saharan wind
c. The cradle of a topmast

NEPTUNE'S SHEEP
a. Dolphins
b. White waves
c. Merchant seamen

Answers on page 18

The solution to yesterday's Qualifying puzzle will appear on Monday, Jan 23.

WEATHER

A bright start for eastern England, but increasing cloud with rain, already into Ireland and western Scotland, will reach eastern Scotland, north-west England and Wales *during the morning. By late afternoon rain everywhere except* East Anglia and south-east England. Windy everywhere. Outlook: Bright and breezy with occasional showers in the west, very windy in the north. Rather cool, milder on Sunday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	s	Majorca	16	64	s
Alcudia	15	59	s	Malaga	16	61	f
Alex'dria	17	63	c	Malta	16	61	f
Algiers	18	64	s	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Amst'dam	7	45	c	Mexico C*	19	66	s
Athens	13	55	c	Miami*	27	81	c
Bahrain	16	61	s	Milan	7	45	f
Barbados*	28	82	f	Montreal*	-10	14	s
Beirut	13	55	s	Moscow	-9	21	c
Belgrade	3	37	c	Munich	7	45	s
Berlin	5	41	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Bermuda*	23	73	f	Naples*	13	55	s
Biarritz	15	59	s	New Delhi	-	-	-
Borde'x	12	54	f	N York*	4	39	s
Brussels	8	46	c	Nice	14	57	s
Budapest	-2	28	c	Oslo	7	45	c
B Aires*	31	88	f	Paris	8	46	c
Cairo	17	63	f	Peking	-1	30	s
Cape Tn	25	77	s	Perth	33	91	s
C'blanca	18	61	s	Prague	-1	30	fg
Chicago*	4	39	c	Reykjvik	2	28	f
Chi'church	28	82	s	Rhodes	16	61	s
Cologne	9	48	s	Rio de J	22	72	c
C'phgn	4	39	f	Riyadh	15	59	s
Corfu	15	59	s	Rome	12	54	s
Dublin	5	41	s	Salzburg	0	32	fg
Dubrovnik	15	59	s	S Frisco*	11	52	s
Faro	18	61	f	Santiago*	32	90	s
Florence	7	45	s	S Paulo*	24	75	c
Frankfurt	5	41	c	Seoul	2	36	sn
Funchal	17	63	f	Sing'por	-	-	-
Geneva	8	46	f	St'kholm	4	39	s
Gibraltar	11	52	r	Strasb'rg	9	48	s
Helsinki	2	36	r	Sydney	21	70	c
Hong K	17	63	r	Tangier	15	59	f
Innsbruck	5	41	s	Tel Aviv	17	63	c
Istanbul	8	46	s	Tenerife	17	63	c
Jeddah	26	79	s	Tokyo	9	48	r
Jo'burg*	17	63	t	Toronto*	-4	25	s
Karachi	23	73	s	Tunis	15	59	s
L Palmas	18	64	f	Valencia	14	57	s
Le Touq't	9	48	r	Vanc'ver*	3	37	c
Lisbon	14	57	s	Venice	6	43	fg
Locarno	8	46	c	Vienna	1	34	c
L Angels*	15	59	s	Warsaw	4	39	s
Luxemb'g	7	45	c	Wash'ton*	11	52	s
Luxor	20	68	s	Wel'ton	20	68	f
Madrid	9	48	s	Zurich	4	39	f

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	-	6	43	cloudy
Bridlington	0.3	-	6	43	cloudy
Hunstanton	3.1	-	7	45	bright
Cromer	2.7	-	6	43	bright
Clacton	6.8	-	8	46	sunny
Southend	6.1	.03	8	46	sunny
Folkestone	2.8	-	8	46	sunny
Hastings	1.7	-	9	48	bright
Eastbourne	2.3	-	9	48	bright
Brighton	2.6	-	9	48	sunny
Worthing	3.2	-	9	48	sunny
Bognor R	4.3	-	9	48	sunny
Southsea	4.4	-	9	48	sunny
Sandown	5.6	.04	8	46	sunny
Shanklin	2.4	-	9	48	sunny
Bournemth	2.9	-	10	50	bright
Poole	4.6	-	10	50	sunny
Exmouth	3.1	-	10	50	bright
Teignmouth	3.9	-	10	50	bright
Torquay	4.1	.02	11	52	sunny
Falmouth	3.5	-	11	52	sunny
Penzance	3.8	-	11	52	sunny
Scilly Isles	1.5	-	11	52	bright
Newquay	4.8	-	11	52	bright
Minehead	4.6	-	10	50	sunny
Morecambe	-	-	9	48	dull
Boston	1.2	-	5	41	bright
Carlisle	-	.02	9	48	rain
Leeds	1.4	-	8	46	bright
Nottingham	1.9	-	7	45	bright
Anglesey	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Colwyn Bay	0.2	-	9	48	gale
Tenby	0.2	-	10	50	cloudy
Aberdeen	-	.01	7	45	cloudy
Aviemore	-	1.29	5	41	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	.77	6	43	rain
Kinloss	-	.01	8	46	rain
Lerwick	-	.17	7	45	rain
Stornoway	-	.78	9	48	shower
Tiree	-	.64	9	48	rain
Wick	-	.02	8	46	dull

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.22	6.9	6.01	6.8
Aberdeen	5.18	4.0	5.18	4.3
Avonmouth	11.05	12.9	11.27	12.3
Belfast	2.44	3.3	3.00	3.8
Cardiff	10.50	11.9	11.12	11.4
Devonport	9.39	5.4	10.06	5.0
Dover	2.36	6.5	3.05	6.1
Falmouth	9.03	5.2	9.36	4.8
Glasgow	4.28	4.7	4.37	5.2
Holyhead	1.55	5.1	2.12	5.5
Ilfracombe	9.50	8.9	10.10	8.3
Leith	6.30	5.2	6.47	5.4
Liverpool	2.50	8.8	3.10	9.2
Lowestoft	12.35	2.6	1.43	2.7
Milford Haven	10.09	6.8	10.31	6.3
Newquay	9.04	6.8	9.27	6.4
Oban	9.33	3.8	9.38	3.4
Penzance	8.43	5.5	9.18	5.1
Portsmouth	3.14	4.7	3.22	4.4
Southampton	2.33	4.5	2.45	4.8
Swansea	10.09	9.0	10.27	8.5

Time in metres: 1m=3.280ft. Times are GMT

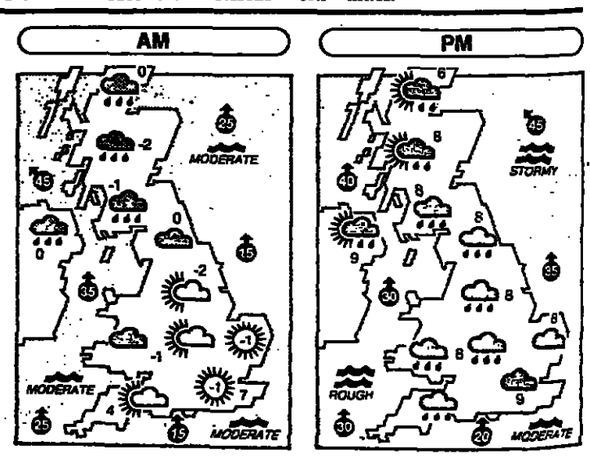
THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.14	2.02
Austria Sch	23.80	22.40
Belgium Fr	71.15	67.55
Canada $	2.23	2.11
Denmark Kr	13.08	12.43
Finland Mkk	7.88	7.48
France Fr	11.48	10.88
Germany Dm	3.38	3.20
Greece Dr	287	271
Hong Kong $	14.40	13.65
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.20
Italy Lire	2480	2360
Japan Yen	240	224
Netherlands Gld	3.815	3.615
Norway Kr	12.35	11.70
Portugal Esc	277	262
South Africa Rd	4.90	4.40
Spain Pta	211	200
Sweden Kr	11.60	10.98
Switzerland Fr	2.885	2.715
Turkey Lira	3600	3000
USA $	1.674	1.774
Yugoslavia Dnr	11500	9100

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 116.0 (November)

London: The *FT* index closed up 13.1 at 1[illegible].



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 5 pm, 10C (50F); min 5 pm to 8 am, 8C (46F). Humidity: 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.16 in. Sun: 24 hr to 8 pm, 1.1 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1017.6 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 7C (45F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.17 in. Sun: 24 hr to 8 pm, 4.1 hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4.48 pm to 7.31 am
Bristol 4.58 pm to 7.40 am
Edinburgh 4.38 pm to 8.05 am
Manchester 4.47 pm to 7.46 am
Penzance 5.15 pm to 7.46 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

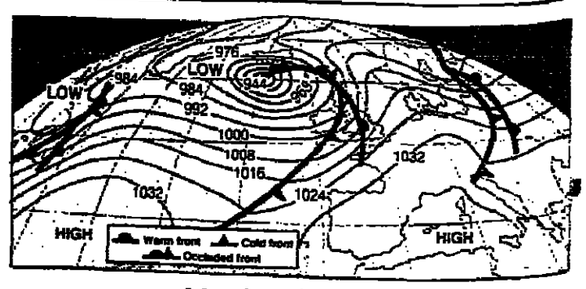
Wednesday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Ammore, Highland, 1.30in; highest sunshine: Clacton, Essex, 6.8hr.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	4	39	f	Guernsey	9	48	f
B'rmgham	8	46	f	Inverness	5	41	f
Blackpool	7	45	s	Jersey	9	48	f
Bristol	9	48	s	London	8	46	s
Cardiff	5	41	f	M'chester	8	46	s
Edinburgh	6	43	f	Newcastle	7	45	f
Glasgow	6	43	c	R'nldsway	6	43	f

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1989. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 01-782 5000 and at 124 Portman Street, Kinning Park, Glasgow G41 1EJ, telephone 041 429 1000. Friday, January 13, 1989. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1511.9 (+13.1)	US dollar 1.7860 (+0.0025)
FT-SE 100 1850.9 (+16.8)	W German mark 3.2595 (+0.0028)
USM (Datastream) n/a	Exchange index 98.0 (same)

THE TIMES

FRIDAY JANUARY 13 1989

PART 2

21

BUSINESS & FINANCE 21-26
LAW 25
MOTORING 31
SPORT 32-36

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

NI claims it has 57% of Collins

News International has declared its bid for William Collins, the publisher, unconditional in all respects, but adds that the offer will remain open for acceptance until 3 pm on January 30. The document containing its increased terms has been sent to Collins shareholders.

By 11.30 am yesterday valid acceptances had been received in respect of 469,769 Collins ordinary shares, 3 per cent, and 576,263 Collins A shares, 1.6 per cent, raising the aggregate holdings owned, agreed to be purchased and accepted to 57 per cent of the ordinary and 21.9 per cent of the A shares.

Textron offer

Textron, the US conglomerate which stepped in as a white knight for Avdel, the British industrial fasteners group, has until today to increase its 92p-a-share offer, which values Avdel at £125 million.

Profits leap

First Technology Group made pre-tax profits of £1.92 million, up 86 per cent, in the six months to end-October. The interim dividend is raised to 2.5p from 1.7p.

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones ..... 2232.50 (+26.07)*
Tokyo
Nikkei Average .... 31143.45 (same)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ..... 2879.33 (+6.81)
Amsterdam: Gen ..... 294.5 (+3.8)
Sydney: AO ..... 1507.5 (+8.8)
Frankfurt:
Commerzbank ..... 1698.7 (+11.0)
Brussels:
General ..... 5690.8 (+36.5)
Paris: CAC ..... 434.4 (+0.3)
Zurich: SKA Gen ..... 539.3 (+4.3)
London:
FT.–A All-Share ..... 955.57 (+8.19)
FT.–"500" ..... 1041.79 (+8.92)
FT. Gold Mines ..... 163.8 (+0.7)
FT. Fixed Interest ..... 96.56 (+0.18)
FT. Govt Secs ..... 87.05 (–0.09)

Recent Issues Page 25
Closing prices Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Bassett Foods ..... 455p (+55p)
Plessey ..... 233p (+7½p)
Greene King ..... 486p (+28p)
Bass ..... 842½p (+21p)
Greenall Whitley ..... 276½p (+11p)
Blue Circle ..... 456½p (+10p)
Tarmac ..... 244½p (+10½p)
Conder Group ..... 419½p (+12p)
Yorkshire Chem ..... 265p (+16p)
British Commonwth 215½p (+10p)
Nobo Group ..... 238p (+10p)
Isotron ..... 182½p (+12p)
Lucas ..... 545½p (+11p)
Savoy Hotels 'A' ..... 820p (+17p)
H Barrett ..... 190p (+15p)
Really Useful ..... 555p (+17p)
Camford Eng ..... 223½p (+15p)

FALLS:
Sock Shop ..... 145p (–15p)
Lonrho ..... 335p (–15p)
Hammerson ..... 953p (–27p)
Closing prices
Bargains 28073
SEAQ Volume 794.0m

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 13%
3-month interbank 13 3/16–13 1/16%
3-month eligible bills:12 5/8–12 19/32% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 10½%
Federal Funds 9¼%*
3-month Treasury Bills 8.28-8.27%*
30-year bonds 99 16/32-99 15/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7860	£: $1.7845*
£: DM3.2595	$: DM1.8247*
£: SwFr2.7772	$: SwFr1.5557*
£: FFr11.1179	$: FFr6.2265*
£: Yen225.21	$: Yen126.15*
£: Index:98.0	$: Index:66.4
ECU £0.639463	SDR £0.747658

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $404.85 pm-$404.15
close $404.00-404.50 (£226.25-226.75)
New York:
Comex $404.20-404.70*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) pm $16.40bbl ($16.32)
* Denotes latest trading price

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH
0898 141 141

● Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Plessey (02468) was 5p to the good after GEC (01443) staged a market raid; Alan Bond said he would not buy more shares in Lonrho (01182), which eased 15p, but Allied Lyons (01401), another possible target, rose 6p; a takeover offer from Sweden saw Bassett (01019) rally 50p; TSB (02341) was 1p off despite a 28 per cent increase in profits.
● Recent additions include: Cityvision 8½% conv pef 03545; Select TV 1p 03546.
● Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

£240m market raid on Plessey follows Young decision

GEC Siemens bid referred

By David Brewerton

GEC Siemens, the company set up to bid for Plessey, raided the market for a £240 million share stake after the £1.7 billion bid was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday.

The object was to take the stake up to 14.9 per cent, and the raid fell within the new rules laid down after Elders IXL lifted its stake in Scottish & Newcastle to 23.6 per cent in the wake of a reference of that bid.

Lord Young ordered that neither GEC Siemens nor either of the companies backing it should acquire more than 15 per cent in total of the Plessey shares, pending the outcome of the three-month MMC inquiry.

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of the OFT, recommended the investigation because of fears over competition in two areas of Plessey's operations: defence electronics and traffic control equipment.

At the same time, Europe's new commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, a former British Trade Secretary, ordered a full-scale inquiry into the proposed takeover.

He said it represented a "prima facie" breach of Common Market trade rules, and added that Brussels had the power to block the bid even if it cleared the MMC hurdle in Britain.

Plessey has already brought a court case in Britain under the Treaty of Rome, claiming the GEC Siemens link-up breaks European law under article 85, the article under which Sir Leon is taking action.

Although the bid automatically lapsed when the MMC reference was made, the signs are that GEC and Siemens are prepared to see the inquiry through in the hope of being allowed to pursue the bid later this year.

Lord Young said after referring the bid that the possibility of a counter-bid for GEC itself played no part in his decision to send the Plessey bid to the Monopolies Commission, although if a bid does appear it will have to be scrutinized by the OFT.

In a speech to a 1992 conference, Lord Young said that prospective gains to international competitiveness which might flow from a merger which would restrict domestic competition "are certainly considered in appropriate cases.

"But it would not be right for the Director General [of the OFT] or for me to simply take on trust the claims often put forward for the proposers of a merger of the benefits that will flow from it."

GEC and Siemens see their action as part of a grand and necessary restructuring of the

Comment.....23

European electical and electronics businesses to meet competition from the big Japanese and US companies.

GEC reacted last night to suggestions that it had made no offers to divest parts of the business in order to satisfy OFT concerns about loss of domestic competition.

A GEC spokesman said: "Lord Weinstock visited the OFT, the DTI and the Ministry of Defence to impress on them that he was willing to trade companies. He was and is flexible and prepared to make disposals. We were happy to give undertakings."

GEC had given the OFT an organizational chart showing how the companies would operate after the bid, but the OFT was not convinced that the defence electronics businesses of Marconi (part of GEC) and Plessey could be operated in competition when they partially shared the same ownership.

This view was shared, it is understood, by the MoD, and is likely to be a focus of the European enquiry which will additionally be looking at the potential loss of competition between Siemens and GEC themselves.

Commenting on the MMC referral, Sir John Clark, the chairman of Plessey, said: "We will continue to pursue the strategies set out in our recent circular to shareholders.



Acting on competition fears: Sir Gordon Borrie of the OFT yesterday, after recommending the MMC investigation

Shares climb after brokers' lightning raid

By Geoffrey Foster

Brokers Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Cazenove staged their spectacular raid on behalf of GEC less than an hour after hearing that Lord Young had referred the £1.7 billion bid to the Commission.

The joint exercise took a little less than 10 minutes and cost around £220-£240 million.

BZW and Cazenove bought a number of blocks of 9 million Plessey shares at 245p a share outside the market on a cash settlement basis. Plessey shares touched 234p during the raid before closing 6p up on the day at 232p.

Brittan orders EEC inquiry

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

The bid for the Plessey by GEC and Siemens will have to be approved by the European Commission, Sir Leon Brittan, the European Economic Community's new Competition Commissioner said yesterday.

Completing the first stage of his assessment into the bid, Sir Leon said that the proposed co-operation between the bidders for the acquisition of a large competitor raised fundamental "issues of Community law that required a full investigation."

He added that the bid fell within the provisions of Article 85(1) of the Treaty of Rome, which prohibits all restrictive practices – defined as any attempt to "prevent, restrict or distort competition within the Common Market." Article 85(3) also confers on the Commission power to give approval to such restrictive practices which contribute to improvements in the production and distribution of goods, the promotion of technical and economic progress, and which are also in the interest of consumers.

But Sir Leon said that he was still awaiting more information from the bidders to assess whether the proposed acquisition should be granted an exemption from the EEC competition rules.

A Commission spokesman said that Britain's monopolies inquiry does not diminish the EEC's legal obligation to come to its own conclusion over the takeover, which could conflict with the outcome of the British investigation.

Both investigations will grant Lazard Brothers additional time to complete its preparations to mount an international consortium to make a counter £7 billion bid for GEC.

French beat water limit

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

Moves by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Environment Secretary, to limit French takeover bids of British water companies have immediately boosted existing bids by the French.

After the close of business on Wednesday night, shortly after Mr Ridley made his statement in the House of Commons, Lyonnaise des Eaux was able to buy 35.1 per cent of the voting stock in Sunderland & South Shields Water and 22.6 per cent of Newcastle & Gateshead Water as a result of a deal struck by Bankers Trust, its adviser, with the Prudential.

The purchase gave Lyonnaise instant control of Sunderland & South Shields, with 52.3 per cent of the votes. With other purchases and acceptances, Lyonnaise now also controls 41 per cent of Newcastle & Gateshead.

Until Mr Ridley's statement, insitutional shareholders in water companies had become increasingly cautious about accepting bids for their stock. Although the offers gave them large profits, the trend of bid prices was rising strongly and there was also the possibility of water authorities entering the auctions.

The limit imposed by Mr Ridley effectively ruled out new bids from the authorities or the French companies, giving shareholders a much greater incentive to accept

After Mr Ridley's ambiguous statement about the exact coverage of the £30 million trigger for automatic references to the Monopolies Commission, Southern Water hoped it might still be able to bid for smaller companies.

But after clarification that bids where either an offeror or offeree water company had assets of £30 million would probably be vetoed, Southern was last night reconsidering its position with Rothschilds, its advisers.

Mail raises its dividend on £3.2m profits

Daily Mail and General Trust, the majority owner of Associated Newspapers Holdings, is raising its final dividend for the year to end-September by 2p to 51p a share, making 73p (70p) for the year.

Pre-tax profits of DMGT were £3.26 million compared with £3.16 million, generated from its £60 million-plus portfolio of blue chip investments, sold since year end.

DMGT's share of the pre-tax profits of the then related Associated Newspapers (now absorbed into DMGT) was £18.4 million (£28.4 million). DMGT's net asset value at year-end was 4,101p a share (5,437p). The market price was £46 a share yesterday.

Cuckney presses on with break-up consortium



Sir John: a breathing space

By John Bell, City Editor

Sir John Cuckney, who is assembling a consortium to make a break-up bid for GEC, confirmed yesterday that he is pressing on with his project. Metsun, the acquisition company which Sir John has formed, said after news of the referral of the GEC/Siemens bid for Plessey, that discussions were continuing which would lead to a restructuring of GEC and the disposal of some of its businesses.

The latest round of talks between potential Metsun backers are thought to have produced little in the way of firm progress. Yesterday sources close to the discussions suggest that they may now enter a new phase, for the referral gives Sir John time to reconsider the composition of his consortium.

The position of STC as a possible member is not yet clear though City sources suggest it is now unlikley to take part. It is understood that the outline break-up plan, which involved STC taking over GPT, the joint telecommunications venture between Plessey and GEC, would have been difficult for STC. The plan called for STC to pay almost £1.8 billion for GPT against its net equity of under £800 million. This would have meant a cash call or rise in STC's gearing.

In industrial terms, the purchase would take STC heavily into public switching, an area of business from which it withdrew a few years ago to pursue an alternative strategy involving underwater cables and transmission businesses. In City terms STC has transformed itself in recent years. The GPT deal would represent an about turn which could prove difficult to sell to its new supporters.

AT&T, the US group, is a possible replacement for STC in a Metsun consortium. It ranks as the world's largest telecommunications group and has been seeking to expand its European business for some time. The prospect of purchasing the leading telecommunications business in Britain would clearly be enticing.

The terms of the MMC reference were being read by some analysts as opening the way for AT&T. They refred to the possible effects on competition especially in defence electronics and traffic control equipment, but made no mention of telecommunications. This suggests that both the OFT and Lord Young have little objection to foreign control of GPT which would arise under the GEC/Siemens plans for Plessey. Presumably an AT&T offer for GPT would also be approved by the Office of Fair Trading.

Hammerson property valued at £2.48bn

By Cliff Feltham

Hammerson, the property company defending a £1.3 billion bid from the Dutch Rodamco group, struck back yesterday with its long-awaited independent valuation which puts a £2.48 billion price tag on its worldwide property interests.

Mr John Parry, managing director, said its portfolio had been independently valued at £10.65 a share after deducting the proposed 14p final dividend.

Although this is a sharp jump on the 650p asset figure for the end of 1987, it failed to impress Rodamco. Mr Derek Higgs, of SG Warburg, the company's adviser, said: "It came as a mild disappointment after all the hype. There are some major discrepancies between the information we have and their valuation."

Hammerson, however, insisted the valuation represented a rock-bottom figure, or "squeaky clean."

Hammerson estimated that its profits before tax for 1988 would show a 36.4 per cent rise to £74 million with earnings per share 33.7 per cent up at 31.2p.

TSB payout up 11% as profits rise to £420m

By Our Financial Editor

TSB Group, the banking company with 1.8 million shareholders, has raised its dividend by 11.5 per cent to 5.24p per share after announcing pre-tax profits of £420 million for the year to October 31. Profits were 23 per cent up on the annual equivalent of the previous 49-week financial year.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the former Stock Exchange chairman who now heads the TSB, acknowledged that 1988 had been a year of consolidation and streamlining for TSB Group after a period of rapid growth, adding that 1989 was likely to be a tough year for banking.

The profits include £21 million operating profit from the Target investment management group and £59 million for 49 weeks' profits from Hill Samuel, both of which were bought after TSB's flotation. But the acquisitions, made at high prices fixed before the stock market crash, cut growth in earnings per share to 6.4 per cent. Earnings for the original TSB would have grown by 15 per cent.

Tempus, page 22

Bank Governor's letters that never were

The undramatic art of secret Budgetry

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Secret letters from the Governor of the Bank of England to the Chancellor, urging him to abandon his tax-cutting hopes, are the stuff of high drama. Actual events are often rather more mundane.

Treasury and Bank of England officials were puzzled at the latest outbreak of interest in the Bank's Budget submission to the Chancellor, prompted by BBC reports of such a letter on Wednesday. Earlier reports on the Bank's advice appeared late last year.

In the current Budget debate the Bank argues for caution in economic policy. It says that "policy will need to remain restrictive until there are clear signs that inflationary pressures are abating."

The Bank and the Treasury are in day-to-day contact and meetings and telephone conversations between the Governor and the Chancellor are regular. There is also the Middleton Committee, a Treasury-Bank forum under the chairmanship of Sir Peter Middleton, the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

The Bank's submission to the Treasury on the Budget was delivered after the completion of the Bank's own economic forecasting exercise in December. It emphasizes the usual Bank of England concerns, and notably those about the rapid growth of earnings.

A year ago, the Bank called for a cautious Budget without knowing the full extent of the strength of the Government's tax position. This year, there is far greater awareness of the potential for Budget surpluses, and the assessment of whether the Budget is cautious will be based on the size of any tax cuts.

The Chancellor is confident that his policy of high interest rates is beginning to affect consumer spending – the Bank of England is not so sure.

However, the latest quarterly analysis of bank advances from the Bank, published yesterday, provides some support for the view that the consumer sector has been hit by higher interest rates. The rise in non-mortgage lending to individuals during the three months to the end of November was £1.03 billion, or 3 per cent, the lowest quarterly rise for two years. Mortgage lending rose by £2.8 billion, compared with £3.7 billion in the previous three months.

Lending to companies was strong in the three months to end-November with industrial and commercial companies accounting for 50 per cent of bank borrowing. Manufacturing firms borrowed £2.8 billion, a 7 per cent rise in the stock of sterling lending in the quarter, while lending to property companies rose £2.1 billion, for a 12 per cent rise in the amount of such lending outstanding.

£1000+ TO INVEST?

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR:

Growth and balanced security ☑
Up to 15% tax free income ☑
A bonus of up to 3% ☑
Withdrawals with no penalties ☑
Monthly income option ☑

If your money is sitting in a building society account, it could be working harder. With the Dual Growth Bond, half of your investment goes into Gilts, bonds or high interest building society accounts. The other half is invested by a leading City Stockbroker mainly in the UK stockmarkets. Giving you a perfect balance of security and the prospect of high growth.

Your money isn't tied up either. You can make withdrawals at any time without penalty. Or take a fixed monthly income of up to 15% p.a. tax free. (5% p.a. for higher rate tax payers). Although 15% p.a. may reduce your capital over some time periods.

Homeowners, the leading Friendly Society currently controls over £235 million on behalf of 210,000 investors. Our objective is to beat the best building society rates although, of courses, unit and share prices can go down as well as up.

Minimum investment is £1000. Return the coupon now for full details of this hardworking, flexible investment plus a bonus of up to 3%. You'll be under no obligation and we promise no salesman will call.

FREEPOST – NO STAMP NEEDED
Send to: Homeowners Friendly Society, FREEPOST Springfield Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 5BR
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
BLOCK CAPITALS
Address
Postcode

PHONE NOW for a free information pack
0423 522070
Please quote ref TWISOTTS

Member of Lautro
HFS HOMEOWNERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Astra Holdings leaps 55% to £4.05m

Astra Holdings, the producer of military pyrotechnics which is based in Kent, reported a 55 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £2.62 million to £4.05 million, on turnover up from £20.53 million to £44.23 million for the six months to end-September. The results include the British Manufacture & Research Company, a producer of cannons and explosives. The acquisition was completed in May for £35 million, and the deal was financed by a rights issue.

Mr Gerald James, the chairman, said that Astra's order book showed a healthy £130 million, double the level of orders a year ago. Full-year turnover would approach a record £100 million. As a result of the acquisition earnings per share showed only a modest growth, up from 1.23p to 1.26p. Shareholders receive an interim dividend of 0.35p per share, the same as last year.

Beer output up 6.8%

Beer production in Britain in November was 3.53 million bulk barrels, an increase of 6.8 per cent on the 3.30 million barrels brewed in the same month in 1987, according to the Brewers Society. In the year to date production was 34.03 million barrels, a rise of 0.8 per cent. A society spokesman said that November's production increase reflected continuing confidence by the trade in the British beer market.

Printech buys US printer

Printech International has acquired Kenmore Press, of Massachusetts, a specialist printer, for $2.15 million (£1.2 million). In the year to end-June Kenmore made a pre-tax loss of $85,000. The buy and part of Printech's current capital expenditure is being funded through a vendor consideration placing of 983,908 ordinary shares and a placing for cash of 656,087 shares at Ir150p to raise Ir£2.46 million.

Nobo rises to £1.64m

Nobo Group, the office equipment manufacturer, showed a 51 per cent jump in pre-tax profits for the six months to end-October from £1.08 million to £1.64 million, on a turnover up by 49 per cent from £6.08 million to £9.05 million. Earnings per share rose 46 per cent from 7.1p to 10.4p. Shareholders will receive an interim dividend of 2.2p, compared with 1.76p last time.

Mr Peter Kent, the chairman, said present trading conditions are favourable and the board looks forward to the second half of the year with optimism. The strong demand has been maintained, with sales by all subsidiaries showing continued growth, including further growth in European sales.

FAI purchase of NZ broker

FAI Insurances is to purchase the outstanding 50 per cent of Morrow and Benjamin, the New Zealand stockbroker, from Wardley Australia, Mr Rodney Adler, the FAI chief executive, said yesterday. The broker, based in Auckland, is being acquired through FAI Metropolitan Life, a wholly-owned division of FAI Insurances NZ, said Mr Adler. The purchase price was undisclosed.

Turnbull up at half time

Turnbull Scott, the engineering and propeity group, raised pre-tax profits from £495,000 to £714,000 in the six months to end-September. The interim dividend rises from 1.19p to 2.15p. Helped by an extraordinary credit of £734,000, earnings per share more than doubled from 4.7p to 10.5p. The board says all divisions are trading in line with expectations and looks forward to a good year-end result.

Jones, Stroud ahead

Jones, Stroud (Holdings), the textile and electrical industries supplier based in Nottingham, has unveiled an increase in pre-tax profits for the six months to end-September from £2.9 million to £3.67 million. Turnover during the period rose from £25.48 million to £28.67 million and earnings per share rose from 9.21p to 12.44p. The interim dividend is lifted from 2.0p to 2.5p.

The board said that, as yet, no impact has been felt on orders as a consequence of higher interest rates. It also anticipates second-half profits will be similar to those of the first six months.

TEMPUS

Tuck away TSB for a rainy day

TSB has done quite well to deliver a 23 per cent rise in pro forma pre-tax profits to £420 million, in line with many recent forecasts but well ahead of some of the earlier scare stories.

After an £8 million dilution from the expensive Hill Samuel and Target Group acquisitions, earnings per share at 18.3p are up by only 6.4 per cent from the 1986-87 figures adjusted for the share issue proceeds.

Had the acquisitions not been made, growth of earnings might have been as high as 15 per cent. But unfortunately, this is of little guide to the future.

TSB remains relatively underlent with the ratio of advances to assets up from 40 to 50 per cent against the 70 per cent clearing bank average.

The risk/asset ratio of 14 per cent, against the new international requirement of 8 per cent also points to unused capacity. But the market is not right for expansion.

The great growth engine of mortgages, more than 40 per cent of the loan book, is no locomotive for 1989. Even allowing for seasonal swings, mortgage inquiries are sharply down.

This is not the moment to drive up TSB's share of other personal lending, though its staid customer profile should now show its virtues. Hill Samuel will therefore have to pull its weight on the corporate side.

Even if that happens, TSB would do well to achieve double-figure earnings growth this year.

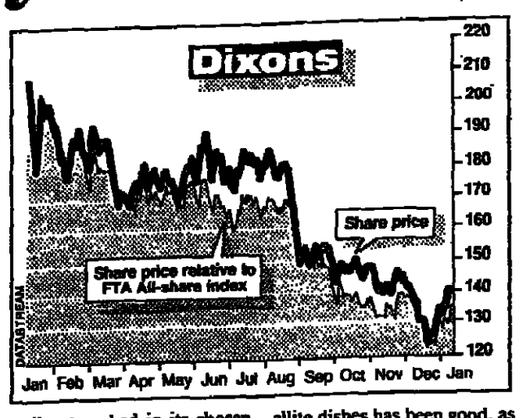
Given the solidity of its base and the high contribution from the likes of insurance and pensions, the shares ought still to be worth much more than the present six times earnings.

But TSB is a long-term stock in a short-term sector, which does not excite the institutions.

TSB shares, down 1p to 109p yesterday, might do better if it paid out more. The 6.3 per cent yield on dividends up 12 per cent to 5.24p per share, keeps the company down with the more conventional clearers.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the new chairman, has not yet evolved a coherent dividend policy.

The shares, though excellent value to tuck away for rainy days, are therefore likely to remain in that bracket.



Dixons

There is no question that Dixons profits will be down this year. The only debate is by how much, because after the 15.2 per cent setback at the half-way stage — which ended on November 12 — the cost of the dull and dreary Christmas period has yet to be counted.

Dixons, committed to and well entrenched in its chosen field of consumer electronics, has little alternative but to wait for the predictably lower consumer spending trend to be arrested before it can be confident enough to talk of better trading ahead.

Retail trading operations in Britain were dull. Sales were 4 per cent higher at £587.9 million but profits fell 38 per cent from £27.4 million to £17 million, more than offsetting a reasonable retail performance in the United States, and stronger profits from financial services and property activities.

Demand for television sets has entered a "pause phase" as consumers hold back in front of new product ranges and developments — such as high-definition TV.

The inquiry level for satellite dishes has been good, as has the number of deposits which have been taken. The microwave market is not saturated yet, but distinctly higher volumes are proving evasive.

But higher sales per sq ft look some way off. They were down 14 per cent within Dixons, and 6 per cent within Currys' high street outlets, and down 10 per cent overall. Group market share did, however, inch forward in consumer electronics market.

Expansion into Europe remains a high priority, though only when the correct opportunity has been identified.

Year-end profit estimates range between £81 million and £85 million (compared with an actual £103.1 million seen last year), and not much advance in 1990 is expected.

Longer-term holders can happily keep the shares in a bottom drawer for eventual better times. But currently at 135p, on a prospective p/e of 10.7 times, the shares are well up with events.

They will only revive once consumer demand looks like taking off, and/or if bid thoughts seriously start to circulate again.

Macarthy

No wonder Macarthy found the Unichem customers' incentive scheme such a bitter pill to swallow.

Macarthy's delayed full-year figures to October 1 show a deficit of almost £5 million, wiping out any attributable profits. It resulted from the widespread cuts announced last summer in the wholesale division, various ancillary charges and the cost of the defensive approach to take over Unichem, firmly rejected by the latter's board.

Macarthy is unwilling to strip out the "above-the-line" effects, in the form of lost business for the wholesaling and manufacturing activities, but pre-tax profits of £6.14 million for the year, up from £5.62 million, compare with brokers' forecasts a year ago of about £10 million.

Macarthy is pinning its hopes on its retail division which, aided by the 1987 acquisition of Drummond Pharmacy Group, raised operating profits from £1.55 million to £4.37 million and showed particularly strong sales in December. Net operating margins rose from 4.4 per cent to 5.6 per cent during the year and have strengthened further since.

Manufacturing and distribution saw profits come crashing down from £6.41 million to £4.26 million. The surgical instruments business has been sold since the financial year end and Macarthy plans to withdraw entirely from manufacturing in a move which could raise another £10 million.

It is limbering up for a mammoth legal action against Unichem, for £10 million or more, should the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in April rule in its favour, a move which is likely to be matched by AAH Holdings, the third force in the pharmaceuticals distribution market.

Macarthy's shares have seemingly defied gravity in recent months. A loss of 6p to 234p on yesterday leaves them on a prospective multiple of almost 12, assuming profits before tax of more than £8 million this year. This reflects recent speculative bid interest, given widespread consolidation already in the retail chemists sector, and seems hard to justify on fundamentals.

Trusts to merge in war on discounts

By Wolfgang Münchau

In a move to eliminate the traditional share price discount suffered by investment trusts, Raeburn Investment Trust and the Romney Investment Trust, are being transferred to Guernsey, merged and re-named Lazard Select.

With £265 million under management, the new company will have an open-ended capital structure, which enables it to issue new units. The price will be set by the managers and as a result the discount should be almost eliminated.

Raeburn shares rose 8p to 527p, while Romney rose 9p to 417p on the news.

Lazard Select will be incorporated in Guernsey but will be resident in Britain and enjoy the tax benefits associated with full UK investment trust status.

Mr Robby Robinson, a County WoodMac investment trust analyst, said: "The deal is part and parcel of the investment trust industry looking for new structures to solve the problem of over-supply." Other trusts were likely to follow suit, he thought.

Lazard Select will offer seven classes of shares, four to be index funds. It will allow investors to switch from one index to another without incurring capital gains.

The terms of the transfer will depend on the net asset value of each trust at February 10, the likely valuation date.

Raeburn has also declared a second interim dividend of 11p per unit for the 12 months to November 30.

Another special dividend of 3.5p is expected for the period before the transfer comes into effect.

Romney had a second interim dividend of 3p per unit for the year to end-December, with a special dividend expected to be at least 0.4p.

Harrisons supresses its new name — by request

By Graham Searjeant

Harrisons & Crosfield is to retain its name by popular demand instead of becoming trendy Harcros plc.

The £800 million plantations group turned profitable fast-growing conglomerate has been wondering about its image. But it has discovered there are advantages to being misunderstood and limits to the urge to look modern.

After years of pell-mell growth in speciality chemicals, timber and builders merchanting, malting, animal feed and own label foods, H&C was worried that its new and most important businesses lacked the old identity of its Far East trading and plantation interests.

Many of the customers of its far-flung chemical subsidiaries — and even employees — did not know they were anything to do with H&C. The builders' merchants operated under 46 different names.

Mr George Paul, H&C's chief executive, called in *Primary Contact*, the designer, to work out a new corporate image. "We did not do so just because we were bored with our old identity. We thought that our old symbol, with its ship in full sail, was appropriate to an overseas trader, but not to the diversified international company Harrisons & Crosfield is today," he said.

The designer came up with Harcros and a natty logo to go with it. It was tried out successfully at the builders' merchants, where it magically improved the group's bulk buying power, and in the chemicals businesses, where it has aided development of a single division, helped staff feel part of a leading group and developed team spirit.

From yesterday, the Harcros identity is being used for the group as a whole, to bring the same internal and external benefits. But when it came to the group's formal name, the directors, headed by Mr David Hopkinson, a City traditionalist, was for once hopelessly divided. So they put it to institutional investors.

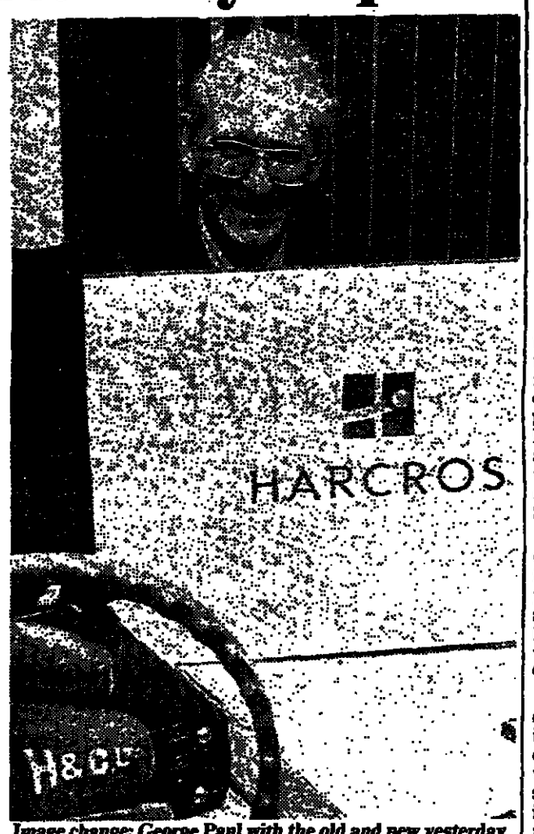


Image change: George Paul with the old and new yesterday

"They said we know you as Harrisons & Crosfields and we want you to stay that way," says Mr Paul.

On the stock market, too, H&C's inclination to change its listing to reflect the change from overseas trader to dynamic conglomerate has been tempered by canny pragmatism. Overseas traders are back in fashion and therefore rated more highly than chemicals or the colourless miscellaneous industrial sector.

"If we had moved our listing there we would have appeared two places below Hanson and we thought that might do more good to the image of Hanson shares than ours," Mr Paul explains.

The pragmatic spirit of change within continuity has extended to H&C's Edwardian offices in the City.

It is to be redeveloped, raising its floor area from 28,000 to 48,000 sq ft, making the freehold worth more than £50 million. But it is to be done by extending the original architectural style from the facade to the messy back of the existing block. "Do you think Prince Charles would approve?" asks Mr Paul. He almostly certainly would.

City rents 'escape impact of job cuts'

By Cliff Feltham

The shake-out in City jobs has so far not hit the office rental market, according to Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, the commercial estate agents.

Mr Richard Lay, the chairman, says rents are, however, starting to come off the boil in the City after increases of 50 per cent over the past two years.

The company, which yesterday reported interim pre-tax profits of £3.5 million, a rise of 64 per cent, has the task of letting the Canary Wharf project in London Docklands. Mr Lay admits that the huge amount of office space which will become available could eventually hit rents in the Square Mile.

"There is no evidence yet of Canary Wharf having any impact but it is bound to when you consider that rents will be around the mid-£20s a sq ft level," he said. This compares with some present rents in the City of about £70 a sq ft.

Mr Lay says: "There are clear signs that the rate of increase in values within some of the commercial sectors in which we operate has begun to slow. I believe, however, that increases in supply coupled with the maintenance of demand will lead to a freer, but still active market.

"We are moving generally from a period when we have experienced a shortage of supply into a more balanced market." The diversity of services will lead to "improving opportunities for us."

During the half-year, Debenham arranged the sale of all 70 of the BP Pension Scheme's South Wales properties. It has just been appointed to act as property valuation adviser for the privatization of 10 water authorities.

The interim dividend goes up by 33 per cent to 2p a share. Earnings per share were 42 per cent up at 7.26p.

A
COMPREHENSIVE
SERVICE
IS ONLY HALF
THE STORY

At Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks our property advice is based on combining a full range of professional skills with a thorough knowledge of property markets. But that is only the start.

We take a fresh view of each new assignment and aim to devise solutions that make a creative contribution to each client's business.

Frequently a new instruction will benefit from the expertise of two or more specialist departments and the co-operation of Debenham Tewson Chesshire in Birmingham and Debenham Tewson in Cardiff. In consequence, our clients benefit from comprehensive and integrated property advice.

In Europe, the Group's long association with Winssinger S.A. in Belgium and, more recently, Zadelhoff in The Netherlands and West Germany means that together we offer considerable expertise. Through Debenham Tewson International's offices in the Middle East, the Far East, Australia and the U.S.A., we give professional advice of the same standards of excellence.

In short, we bring you local knowledge and expertise worldwide.

DEBENHAM TEWSON & CHINNOCKS
International Property Advisers

For a copy of the Group's interim report for the six months to 31st October 1988, please write to the Company Secretary, Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks Holdings plc, Bancroft House, Paternoster Square, London EC4P 4ET.

Crown colony to meet 'best of world standards'

Tough HK securities law on way

From Stephen Leather
Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Government is planning a comprehensive tightening of its financial rules and regulations following the recent formation of its high-powered securities watchdog.

Mr Piers Jacobs, the Financial Secretary, yesterday unveiled his draft bill for the Securities and Futures Commission, and promised that it would be followed by new legislation.

Mr Jacobs hopes to have his SFC Bill made law by the start of May at the latest, and already has legislation governing insider dealing in the crown colony ready to go before its legislators soon after.

He has given the task of searching out areas of the law that need revamping to Mr Geoffrey Lewis, a government-appointed solicitor. Mr Jacobs and Mr Lewis have already targeted the Protection of Investors Ordinance and the Companies Ordinance as priorities.

"What we want to do is to bring Hong Kong up to the best of the world's standards as an international securities market," Mr Jacobs said. "It is an ongoing process, and this is obviously a very significant step, because we are putting in being what we consider will be a far more effective regulatory organization. I hope that it will be a more attractive market to investors, particularly international investors."

The SFC Bill will be gazetted today and introduced into the legislative council on January 18. The SFC will have an annual budget of about HK$140 million (£10.02 million) and a staff of 225, and closely follows the recommendations of the Securities Review Committee, headed by Mr Ian Hay Davison, which was published in June last year.


Jacobs: wants Bill enacted by May

Mr Lewis, who will identify the weak areas of the colony's securities laws, is a legal adviser from Herbert Smith, the London lawyer, and was one of the Hambros team brought in by the government to put together the HK$4 billion rescue package for the futures exchange in the wake of the 1987 crash.

"After enactment of this ordinance we want to bring all our laws in this area up to the best, modern standards. We are looking to Mr Lewis to show us where the problems might be," said Mr Jacobs.

The Bill is actually the second draft prepared by the Financial Secretary; an earlier version was criticized by the Stock Exchange, the Futures Exchange, the Bar Association, the Hong Kong Deposit-Taking Companies Association, and the Hong Kong Stockbrokers' Association, as being too powerful. The colony's brokers are particularly unhappy at being asked to fund the lion's share of the new watchdog.

But Mr Jacobs and Mr Robert Owen, a British merchant banker who was hired last year to run the new commission, have made few concessions to the Bill's critics. They have agreed that brokers will not have to re-register with the new commission if they are already licensed, and will allow two independent members on a three-man appeal committee.

They have also scrapped a plan to allow investigators to seize documents without a warrant and another to allow investigators to use statements from people as evidence against them.

But the new watchdog will supervise many aspects of the markets that in other countries would be looked after by the exchanges, including stock market listings, market manipulation, insider trading and monitoring brokers.

هكذا من الأصل

Kalms 'to fight for margins as others fight for oxygen'

By Colin Campbell

Mr Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons, the consumer electrical group, having given a warning that year-end profits will be down, admits he will "have to fight for margins as others fight for oxygen" while British consumer conditions remain dull.

Dixons Group yesterday turned in pre-tax profits of £42 million for the 28 weeks ended November 12, compared with £49.5 million in the same period previously, on a turnover that rose from £820.3 million to £891.6 million.

As a mark of confidence in the group's prospects, Dixons is raising the interim dividend by 10 per cent from 1.3p to 1.43p a share.

However, Mr Kalms said that the British consumer electronics market remains weak "and we do not expect any improvement in market conditions for the remainder of the financial year.

"Accordingly, despite expected good performances from property, financial services and US retail, group profits will be below last year's level" when Dixons made a pre-tax profit of £103.1 million, he adds.

The shares eased from 139½p to *135p after Dixons* said that while combined sales of Dixons and Currys (now operating as Dixons Stores Group) rose by 5 per cent, sales per sq ft in comparable stores fell by 10 per cent.

Mr Kalms says the predictably lower trend in consumer spending which has been evident for the past 15 months continues, and he is waiting for the sign that the bottom of the cycle has been reached.

The Christmas trading period, the results of which fall into Dixons' second half, were on budget but on the same trend line. "I believe in the industry, and am optimistic *about new products and the* long term. But there are no carrots around," he said.

Soft areas within Dixons's British retail operations — where interim profits fell from £27.4 million to £17 million — were televisions, videos and microwaves.

The group's photographic interests through Supasnaps made further progress, but Dixons Colour Laboratories mail order business was affected by the postal strike.

In response to recurrent stock market suggestions that Dixons could be a takeover target, Mr Kalms said: "I have not seen the whites of anybody's eyes yet".

Tempus, page 22

Bassett rejects Swedes' £63m bid

By Geoffrey Foster

Another protracted takeover battle in the food sector looks in prospect after Bassett, the Liquorice Allsorts, jelly babies and Jamesons chocolates group, rejected a hostile £63 million, 400p-a-share cash bid from Procordia, one of Sweden's largest industrial groups.

It has already built up a 10.1 per cent stake — 1.59 million shares — in the company.

Bassett shares rose 50p above the offer to 450p, making a two-day leap of 140p.

Mr Beverley Stokes, the Bassett chairman, said: "Regrettably, Procordia has put us in play and, as a result of its pathetic offer, we have received approaches from other interested parties."

Rejecting the Swedish bid as "unwelcome and unsolicited," Mr Stokes added that Procordia's proposals were "not in the interests of Bassett and its shareholders and therefore they are strongly advised to take no action."

Mr Stokes, who helped defend Bassett against an unwelcome £17.4 million bid from Avana five years ago, said that Bassett has excellent prospects as an independent entity.

Mr Goran Linden, Procordia's deputy chief executive, disagreed. He said: "Our offer is generous. Bassett is unlikely to prosper as an independent company in the increasingly competitive confectionery markets in Britain and the rest of Europe."

Miss Julia Bannon, analyst at Robert Fleming Securities, the broker, commented: "At 400p a share, the exit multiple is only about 15 times prospective earnings of Bassett. That is extremely cheap considering the stunning exit p/e commanded by Callard & Bowser when it was swallowed by United Biscuits.

Bassett made pre-tax profits of £4 million in the year to last March. Procordia in the year to end December 1987, made profits of £122.7 million.

C&W sells 20% stake in Bahrain

By Wolfgang Münchau

Cable and Wireless, the international telecommunications group, has been forced to sell half of its shares in Bahrain Telecommunications by the island's government.

C&W has agreed to sell a 20 per cent stake in the company for 31.2 million Bahrain dinars (£46 million), but will retain a 20 per cent stake. It has received assurances that it will retain management control over the operation.

Sir Eric Sharp, the chairman, said: "This is a mutually satisfactory agreement and we look forward to many more years of co-operating with the Bahrain government to provide its people with the quality and sophistication of service they have come to expect."

In 1987 Bahrain Telecommunications achieved net profits of £26 million on turnover of £67.6 million.

The deal highlights the need for Cable and Wireless to change from its original emphasis on running the telecommunications systems of the colonies and small nations, to more emphasis on Europe, Japan, the US and China.

Profit slides at Neotronics



NICK GOLDFINGER

Research pay-off: Paul Gotley with Neotronics' unique new automatic surface mounting machine for printed circuits

By Our City Staff

Neotronics Technology, the gas detection and electronic equipment manufacturer, has reported a fall in pre-tax profits for the year to the end of September from £2.68 million to £1.83 million after turnover edged up from £10.32 million to £10.73 million.

Earnings per share fell from 7.73p to 4.86p, but the board is paying a final dividend of 1.2p, lifting the total for the year from 1.2p a share to 1.8p.

Mr Paul Gotley, the chairman, said the higher turnover represents a strengthening of the customer base compared with the previous year which had the benefit of sales of £700,000 under contract with Bell Canada.

All group production is in Britain and the strength of sterling put pressure on overseas margins, as more than 70 per cent of the group's total turnover comes from overseas.

The group continued to spend heavily on research and development, and this expenditure was increased by 30 per cent compared with 1987, with a further increase of 50 per cent planned for 1989.

As a result, a record number of new products was introduced during the year, with sales expected to build up during 1989.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Men from the ministries ambush GEC Siemens

A dozen men sat round a boardroom table on Monday and decided the future of the joint GEC-Siemens takeover bid for Plessey. They were not company directors nor merchant bankers, but civil servants.

The meeting took place at the Office of Fair Trading, and was chaired by Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general. The identities of those present is secret, but they included representatives from the Department of Trade, the Ministry of Defence, the Treasury, the Department of Employment and Oftel, the telecommunications watchdog. No votes were taken and there was no counting of heads, but by the time the meeting closed the fate of the bid was set: it would be referred.

The meeting was officially called the Mergers Panel, which meets whenever "some point of principle or difficulty" is raised by a merger proposal being examined by the Office of Fair Trading. Only when the Merger Panel has been consulted does the director general make his final recommendation to Lord Young, the Trade Secretary. The director general arrives at his own decision in his own way, but the Merger Panel is a highly efficient and proper way of communicating to Sir Gordon the advice which Lord Young is expecting to receive. Little wonder there is rarely any difference of opinion.

There would not, of course, have been much difference of opinion over the bid for Plessey. Lord Weinstock's protestations that Plessey would be kept at arm's length from General Electric Company itself if the bid were allowed fell on deaf ears or doubtful hearts. The OFT would see the prospect of lessening of competition and no doubt picked up on the apparent contradiction in the bidders' logic: that rationalization would be healthy but that competition between Marconi (GEC) and Plessey in defence electronics could be maintained.

The bidders advanced no plans or promises about divestment, either because they were confident, even overconfident, that the bid would go through unhindered or because they felt that it would be referred no matter what. There is, to be fair, no legal mechanism under which binding undertakings can be given. That is built into the Companies Bill but will not be operative until next year.

It is still open to GEC Siemens to make suggestions for divestment, and that could take it out of the MMC net. The bid would then go back to the OFT for reconsideration, and if Sir Gordon and the panel were convinced, the bid might be allowed to proceed.

The MoD backed a reference, not out of spite or personal animosity which is said to exist between Peter Levene, head of defence procurement at the MoD, and Lord Weinstock, but because of the selfsame fears about loss of competition.

Lord Young, on his feet again yesterday afternoon to promote 1992, stressed that domestic competition was still the key criterion which the OFT had to consider. Greater international competitiveness does not work as a merger carrot until the MMC has done its work.

The reference applies only to the bid on the table. It does not apply to either GEC or Siemens deciding to go it alone, and there does seem to be little in the way of competition clash for Siemens. The signals from Munich were that Siemens is not looking for a solo performance, but if GEC is finally ruled offside by the MMC, it might well change its mind. It has, after all, put up 700 marks buying Plessey shares. But while it is not bound by the reference, the prohibition on buying more Plessey shares does apply jointly and individually to GEC and Siemens, so would need dispensation before being able to complete.

Meanwhile, the reference does not rule out the consortium bid, or at least a bid from Metsun, the Sir John Cuckney vehicle, for Plessey. The OFT is not concerned about the bit of GEC that most interests Plessey, its half share in GEC Plessey Telecommunications. If Plessey's role was limited to buying out that half share, the Cuckney combine could still garner the rich harvest that GEC offers.

Friendly persuasion

The Chancellor flew off to Washington on Tuesday sceptical about the need for an early meeting of the Group of Seven. Yesterday he told the House of Commons that there would be such a meeting within the next few weeks. The US Treasury Secretary, Nicholas Brady, clearly wants to show that he is as keen on G7 co-operation as his predecessor.

The Chancellor's announcement did not excite the markets overmuch, in spite of being the clearest hint yet that the G7 will be getting together soon. There was probably more interest in his admission that, mainly as a result of higher mortgage rates, the December inflation will rise to about 7 per cent.

The markets have become rather bored with international economic diplomacy and more interested in co-operation in practice, notably the current battle between the central banks and the dollar bulls.

This is no bad thing. The last thing the finance ministers want is a build up of expectations on some new initiative on the US budget deficit or a reduction in international trade imbalances, expectations which cannot be satisfied. And the last thing the Chancellor wants is something that could upset sterling's present cosy relationship with the foreign exchange markets.

Burton rules out action

Burton Group has no plans for legal action to clear its name and force publication of the results of the Department of Trade and Industry inquiry into the Debenhams takeover, said Sir Ralph Halpern, the chairman, after the company's annual meeting yesterday (writes Martin Waller).

He conceded he was not happy with the situation, which has seen Burton shares under a cloud since the DTI examiners visited its offices in the summer. "I would like the cloud to be lifted. But I believe it will in the passing of time."

Any legal action would be both "inappropriate" and "irrelevant," he was advised. Sales had risen 14 per cent year-on-year since the September 3 year-end.

Write-off hits Walker Greenbank

Walker Greenbank, the industrial conglomerate run by Sir Anthony Jolliffe, a former Lord Mayor of London, has been forced to write off £7.5 million because of accounting irregularities at Alkar, its shop-fitting subsidiary (writes Cliff Feltham).

The company, whose shares have plunged because of the affair, disclosed yesterday that an investigation carried out by Touche Ross, the accountant, had uncovered "material misstatements in the reported financial results from Alkar."

Sir Anthony said proceedings had started against Mr Alan Carr and Mr William Carr, who sold the Alkar business to Walker Greenbank two years ago. "Everything is now in the hands of our lawyers who are advising us on what action to take next. Alkar is only one of 29 companies in the group and all the others are doing well," he added.

Sir Anthony said that pre-tax losses at Alkar amounted to £10.6 million of which £4.8 million related to the year ending January 31, 1988.

The shares fell another 7p to 88p on the news.

Fraser takeover report 'is bombshell'

The official report on the takeover of the House of Fraser group by the Fayed brothers is a "bombshell" and should be made public immediately, a QC told the High Court yesterday.

Mr John Beveridge, for Mr Tiny Rowland's takeover rival Lonrho, is seeking court orders requiring Lord Young, the Trade Secretary, to publish the Department of Trade and Industry report and to rethink his refusal to refer the takeover to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Beveridge told the court: "Lonrho's view is that... if there is no Monopolies reference, there is no way to secure House of Fraser from the Fayeds."

Unless the court intervened, there was a risk that the report — which Lonrho's evidence showed must contain the conclusion that the Fayeds had been guilty of deceit, including at least one instance of perjury — might never be made public, he added.

Lonrho's allegations are disputed by the Fayeds.

Mr Beveridge said Lord Young initially said he wished to publish the report, but on September 29 he said he would not publish because investigations started by the Serious Fraud Squad precluded him from doing so.

He added that Lord Young had still given no formal reason for his decision not to refer the takeover. The critical six-month deadline for such a reference runs out on January 22.

Allegations were also made about the extent and source of the wealth claimed by the Fayeds, particular mention being made of the Sultan of Brunei as a source of the funds used to buy House of Fraser.

Mr Beveridge said if the Serious Fraud Squad decided not to prosecute or failed in a prosecution the truth might not be known for two or three years. It might then be decided not worth publishing the report.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

● Mr Alan Bond has stated he has no immediate plans for a takeover of Lonrho in which his company, Bond Corp, and its subsidiaries, have built up a 21.6 per cent stake.

County man's new venture

County NatWest is really *going through the mill* at the moment. As if the Blue Arrow saga and the sorry state of stock market volumes were not enough, I hear that Robert Drummond, managing director of County NatWest Ventures, its venture capital arm, has just resigned to join fully-quoted Electra Trust. In his four years with the firm Drummond, aged 43, built up the venture capital business almost from scratch and last year it contributed somewhere between £15 million and £20 million to the group's pre-tax profits. In addition, its investments in the 100 or so management buy-outs or buy-ins he backed would, if realized, generate profits of between £500,000 in some of the smaller transactions, to tens of millions. But what is bad news for one is invariably good for another and the upshot is that Electra — where Drummond will be a main board director as well as vice-chairman of its operating company Electra Management Services — looks like being a stock to watch. Drummond's brief will be, he tells me, to turn Electra, traditionally a passive investor, into an active investor, leading and even initiating buy-outs and buy-ins. "It's time for a new challenge, and the fact that Electra is an independent company without parental strategies and conflicts is an attraction," he says. But, more to the point perhaps, Drummond adds: "And they have offered me a great package."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Trouble at McCaughan

Four senior executives of McCaughan Dyson Capel-Cure — which on Monday changes its name to ANZ McCaughan — have been sacked after proposing what is thought to have been a management buy-out of its smaller companies division. Refusing to confirm that the two-page document submitted on Wednesday evening was a buy-out proposal, the firm's managing director Russell Middleton tells me: "They put together a plan that did not gel with the way our head office saw this business going. They declined to resign and so I have now put them on notice." Those to go are John Gordon, head of corporate finance, John Moxon, head of the smaller companies sales team, Andrew Beeson, head of marketing in institutional sales, and James Flower, an institutional salesman. "There may be some more," Middleton adds ominously.

Team talk

One of the biggest of the market-making teams laid off last month by Morgan Grenfell, its band of 11 European specialists, has found a new home at Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, the stockbroking arm of Credit Lyonnais, the French bank. Making markets in European stocks will be a new area of activity for CL-ALC and the new team, headed by Eric Brigden, Chris Hipkins, Andrew Sharp and Chris Perree, will start in early February. "This is very much a case of Morgan's loss being our gain," says Ian Hay Davison, the new chairman of the firm.



Cashing out

The City's job market becomes more and more like a game of musical chairs with each passing day. Some of those laid off by Morgan Grenfell who were subsequently offered employment by Chase found themselves made redundant by the American securities house before they had even started. But, to soften the blow, I hear that they received cheques of up to £40,000 in the post. Without even passing go...

Cooks' tour de force

Any eventual purchaser of Grand Metropolitan's casinos could find that they have bought their way into precious metals. For, stashed away in a cupboard in the kitchens of its flagship, the Ritz Club, beneath the Ritz Hotel, they will find 13 gold medals won last October in the culinary equivalent of the Olympics. A 10-strong team from the club led by John King, its chef, ventured to Frankfurt for the first time, with the cost carefully extracted from their annual budget, and knocked spots of the 93 other competitors from the four corners of the globe, even though most of them enjoyed the luxury of lavish sponsorship. The Ritz Club team, which is used to catering for a galaxy of film and pop stars, international arbitrageurs and billionaire businessmen — although discretion forbids the disclosure of their names — also walked away with the Grand Prix Award for being the best independent team. "Other exhibitors asked us if we were American or German — they were all most surprised to discover that we were English," says a justifiably proud King.

● **New statistics show that the Japanese are not the biggest investors in the US. Britain was at the top of the foreign investment league table, owning American assets valued at $75 billion (£42 billion). In second place came the Netherlands, with $49 billion and, in third place, the Japanese with a mere $33.4 billion.**

Carol Leonard

FLY WITH ARROWS AND ENHANCE YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

The launch of
ARROWS
'YOUNG COMPANY OF THE YEAR'
1989 AWARDS

has been a startling success. The added incentive of lunch in Venice for the Ten Finalists following a champagne flight on a specially chartered Concorde has stirred the imagination of the business community.

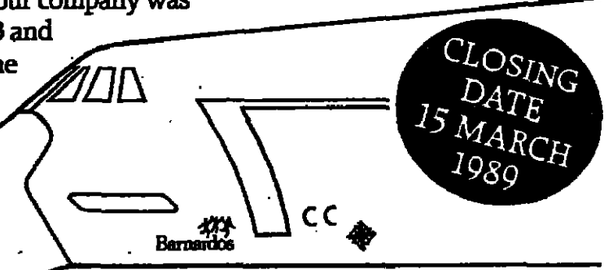
We sincerely hope that more companies will follow up this opportunity and thus make our event the highlight of their year, culminating in the star studded celebrity dinner at London's 'Inn on the Park'.

The closing date is March 15th 1989. Be sure to enter.

ARROWS IN ACTION
FOR CHARITY

The Arrows Young Company of the Year Award will this year benefit Barnardos, supporting their projects for young people, and we plan to present a substantial cheque to the charity on the gala night.

Do you qualify? If your company was incorporated after 1973 and its turnover exceeds one million pounds then we invite you to send for your application.



PLEASE SEND ME MY 'YOUNG COMPANY OF THE YEAR' PACKAGE.

Name Position
Company
Address
Telephone Telex
Nature of Business Contact

ARROWS LIMITED
TRADE FINANCIERS
TT3

Arrows Limited Freepost,
Arrows House, Dunham Mount, Dunham Road, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 4AD.
Telephone: 061-941 2500. Telex: 667052, Arrows G. Fax: 061-928 6948

STOCK MARKET

Bargain hunters lift index over 1,850

Share prices surged, with the FT-SE 100 share index finishing above *1,850* yesterday for the first time in more than two months, helped by a steady trickle of bargain hunters from the US, continental Europe and the Far East.

Their re-appearance after a prolonged absence came as welcome news to London brokers. They hope it may encourage City fund managers *off the sidelines where they* have been since the Chancellor first initiated his programme of higher interest rates in order to combat inflation and curb the sharp rise in domestic credit.

Leading shares which have been drifting steadily in recent months were the main beneficiaries with stocks like **British Steel** leading the way with a rise of 2p at 66p because of an attractive yield. That compares with the original flotation price of 60p in October.

However, conditions remained thin with market-makers still short of stock which exaggerated many of the price movements. But dealers were pleased with the market's performance, claiming it showed every sign of wanting to go better.

The biggest feature of the day was the expected referral of the £1.7 billion GEC and Siemens bid for **Plessey** to the Monopolies nad Mergers Commission. But GEC caught the market on the hop by launching a raid on Plessey to increase its holding to 14.9 per cent. Cazenove and Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the brokers, picked up a total of 89 million shares at 245p each, worth about £240 million. The raid took just 10 minutes and by the close 196 million Plessey shares had ben traded as the price rose 7.5p to 233p, after *211p*. GEC firmed 2p at 214.5p.

The FT-SE 100 share index closed at its best levels of the day, 16.8 up at 1,850.9, while the FT 30 share index rose 13.1 to 1,511.9.

Government securities closed with losses of about £¼ in quiet trading.

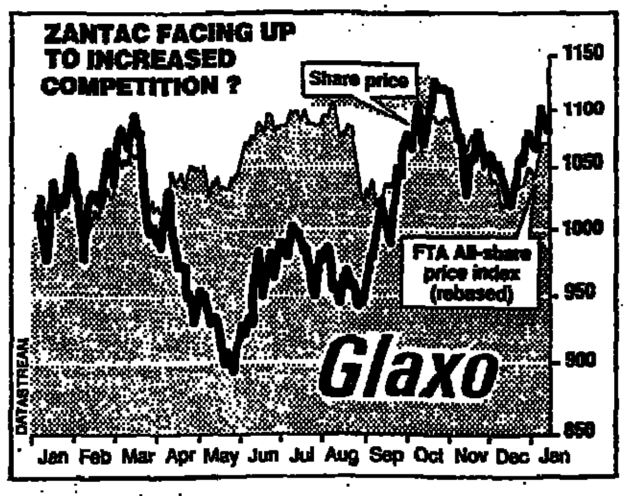
Mr Alan Bond's comments on Australian television that he has no immediate plans to launch a bid for **Lonrho** in which he holds a 22 per cent stake, saw the price fall to 325p, at one stage, before recovering to finish 15p lower at 335p on a turnover of 6.5 *million* shares.

Full-year figures from Lonrho next month are expected *to show pre-tax profits up* from £200 million to only £210 million. But dealers are

Yorkshire Chemicals, a firm market of late, jumped another 16p to 265p. Mr Martin Evans, analyst at Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, the broker, says it is the cheapest stock in the sector and should see pre-tax profits this year rise 24 per cent to £7.8 million, with £9 million for 1990.

looking for a generous dividend payment which might prove to be Lonrho's strongest line of defence should Mr Bond decide to bid.

In the thin conditions investors chased **Bass** sharply higher with the price ending 21p up at 843p on turnover of less than a million shares. There were also solid gains for **Allied-Lyons** 8p to 454p, **Grand Metropolitan** 4p to



451p, **HP Bulmer** 6p to 146p and **Wolverhampton & Dudley** 7p to 439p.

Takeover hopes boosted **Greene King**, the Suffolk brewer, which soared 25p to 491p — for a two-day lead of *44p*. Mr John Elliott, the Australian brewer, continues to hang on to a 13 per cent stake through Elders IXL, famous for its Foster's lager.

Last year, he made an offer for Scottish & Newcastle Breweries but that bid is now in the hands of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and a decision as to whether it will be allowed to proceed is not due for another couple of months.

But already some speculators are taking the view that if the S&N deal is blocked Mr Elliott will turn his attention to Greene King. There was talk this week of a possible property revaluation at Greene King which could be worth more than 700p a share.

Another takeover favourite which has sprung to life in the drinks sector is **Greenall Whitley**, owner of the Grand Hotel, Brighton, and the Belfry championship golf course. There has been talk of a bid for some time but recent claims that the group was on the verge of selling the Belfry to the Japanese appear wide of the mark. Greenall shares advanced 11p to 277p.

Glaxo suffered an early setback touching £10.65 but rallied later in the session only to encounter sellers from New York after-hours. This left the price 11p lower at £10.70p amid fears that its best selling anti-ulcer drug, Zantac, may soon have to compete with a new treatment about to be launched.

An influential US medical magazine has compared the new drug favourably with Zantac. The drug, which has been given the brand name Losec, has been developed by a European team of scientists working for Astra, the Swedish pharmaceutical group.

Astra has already reached agreement with Merck Sharp and Dome, the pharmaceutical group, to market Losec in the US. The US is Zantac's biggest market and Glaxo is likely to put up a fierce fight to maintain its market share.

Glaxo will also be coming under pressure in Europe with Schering Plough expected to market Losec in Italy and Spain. One broker commented: "Glaxo has pinned a lot on Zantac and any threat to sales must be bearish for the company."

Dealers suffered a bad case of crossed-wires *in the life* assurance sector as prices raced away in early trading before turning softer later on after Southern Life, a South African group, expressed its intention of bidding for a British insurance company. Later it transpired that Southern was only interested in bidding for, or acquiring a stake in, an unquoted insurer.

But what may have been behind the sudden flurry of

Fairline Boats, the USM-quoted boat builder, rose 11p *to 468p*, helped by a meeting with seven fund managers arranged by *Charterhouse Tilney this* week. The managers came away impressed with the *group's organic growth* potential, claiming the shares are undervalued.

activity in share prices was the publication of a bullish circular on the sector by Panmure Gordon, the broker. Panmure points out that the life assurers have put up a lack-lustre showing during the past year, underperforming the market by 9 per cent. It blames the possibility of an austere fiscal framework emerging in the next Budget combined with the new SIB disclosure requirements.

Sentiment has also been dented by the decision of the **Prudential** to invest heavily in estate agencies. The potential of growth opportunities for *personal pensions* has been virtually ignored by investors.

But while sentiment has moved against the sector Panmure believes that with the index relatively depressed and offering a yield premium of 24 per cent, there would seem to be little downside potential.

High on its shopping list is **Abbey Life** ½p firmer at 295½p, with its high yield and "significant" earnings potential, and **Legal & General** 6p better at 304p. Others on its "buy" list include **Pearl**, 6p higher at 418p, *Prudential* ½p dearer at 155p.

Camford Engineering, the motor components group, jumped 15p to 224p, after 228p, as Markheath Securities, the British investment vehicle of Mr John Spalvins, the Australian entrepreneur, increased its stake in the company from 11 per cent to 18.4 per cent.

Dealers reckon it is only a matter of time before Markheath makes a full bid for Camford. It recently launched an unsuccessful dawn raid on the shares, but could now be closing in for the *kill*. Markheath is anxious to get its hands on Camford's 20-acre property site in Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Boots, the high street chemist, improved 1p to 237p, after 239.5p, as Warburg Securities, the broker, increased its current-year pre-tax profits estimate to £285 million

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

NEW YORK

Dow manages a small gain in early trading

(Reuter) — Wall Street shares showed narrow gains in early trade yesterday following the blue chips' closing rally on Wednesday.

Futures-related buying produced the gain, but no early *programmes* were seen by futures traders.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 2.14 to 2,208.57 at one stage when the transport indicator gained 1.14 to 993.84 and the utilities average slipped 0.12 to 188.83.

Advancing shares held a moderate lead over declining issues.

Plessey rose 1⅜ to 41⅛.

● **Frankfurt (AP-Dow Jones)** — Shares closed generally higher, with the Commerzbank index showing a rise of *10.0 points* to 1698.7 at its midsession calculation.

● **Sydney (Reuter)** — The All-Ordinaries index closed up 8.8 to 1,508.2 while the All-Industrials rose 17.3 to finish at 2,521.7. The gold index gained 6.8 to end at 1,457.

TOKYO

Nikkei advance halted

(Reuter) — Shares closed mixed after late buying, partly futures-related, which helped prices edge up from earlier lows, brokers said.

The Nikkei index finished unchanged at 31,143.45, matching Wednesday's record. The index had *gained* 933.91 points over the three previous days.

Volume totalled 1.2 billion shares against 1.4 billion.

● **Hong Kong** — The Hang Seng index ended 6.81 points higher at 2,879.33, as heavy buying of utility shares pushed stock indices slightly higher to close *at their fourth* consecutive post-crash high.

WALL STREET

	Jan 11	Jan 10
AMR Cp	53%	52%
ASA	38%	38%
Aetna Life	48%	47%
Allied Signal	33%	33%
Allis Chlm	n.a	n.a
Alcoa	60	58%
Amax Inc	24%	24%
AMR Hess	32%	32%
Am Brands	65%	65%
Am Cynmd	48%	48%
Am Ele Pwr	27	27
Amexs	27%	27%
Am Family	13%	14
Am Home	80%	80%
Am Int Grp	69%	68%
Am Telph	28%	28%
Amoco Cp	77%	77%
Anheusr B	30%	30%
Arch Dan	21	20%
Armco Steel	10%	10%
Asarco Inc	28%	28
Ashland Oil	34%	34%
Atl Richfld	81%	81%
Avon Prod	21	21%
Bk Boston	24%	23%
Bank NY	37%	37
Bankamer	18%	18%
Bkrs Tst NY	37%	37%
Baxter	18%	18
Beth Steel	24	23%
Boeing	60%	59%
Boise Casc	40	39%
Borden	57%	56%
Bristl Meyr	44%	44%
BP	54%	53%
Brunswick	17%	17%
Burl Nth	23%	23%
CBS	172%	172%
CMS Engy	24	24%
CPC Int	52%	51%
CSX Cp	32%	32%
Camp Soup	31	31
Can Pacific	18%	18%
Caterpillar	67%	67
Centrl SW	32	31%
Champion	32%	32%
Chase Man	29%	29%
Chem Bank	31%	31%
Chevron	47%	47%
Chrysler	27%	26%
Citicorp	26%	25%
Clark Eq	33	31%
Coca Cola	44%	44%
Colgate	45	44%
Columb Gas	35%	35%
Cmb'tn Eng	28%	28%
Cmwlth Edi	32%	32%
Cons Edis	46%	46
Consol Ng	41%	40%
Cont Data	21%	20%
Corning Gl	69%	69%
Crane	23%	23%
Curtiss W	54%	39%
Data Genl	18%	18%
Deere Co	47%	47%
Delta Airl	49%	49%
Detroit Edi	17%	17%
Digital Eq	99%	98
Disney	68%	68%
Dow Chem	87%	86%
Dressr Ind	30%	30%
Dupont	90%	89%
Duke Pwr	46	46
East Kodak	44%	44%
Eaton Cp	58%	58%
Emerson El	30%	30
Emery Air	6%	5%
Exxon	44%	44
Farah Inc	8%	8%

	Jan 11	Jan 10
Fedders	13%	13%
Fst Chicago	31%	31%
Fst Int Bncp	44%	44%
Fst Penn C	12%	12%
FT Wachva	38%	38%
Ford Motor	52%	51%
GAF Cp	48%	48%
GTE Cp	43%	43%
Gen Cp	17%	17%
Gn Dynam	51%	51%
Gen Electric	44%	44%
Gen Inst	26%	25%
Gen Mills	53%	52%
Gen Motors	86%	85%
Gen Pub Ut	37%	37%
Genesco	5%	5%
Georgia Pac	37	37
Gillette	34%	34%
Goodrich	51%	51%
Goodyear	51%	51%
Grace Co	27%	27
Grt Atl Pac	47%	48%
Greyhnd	29%	30
Gruman	20	20%
Gulf Westn	43	42%
Heinz	45%	45%
Hercules	46%	46%
Hewlett Pk	52%	52%
Hilton	52%	53%
Honeywell	61%	61%
IC Ind	n.a	n.a
ITT Cp	52	52
INCO	26%	25%
Ing Rand Wl	35%	35%
Inland Steel	44%	44
IBM	122%	121%
Int Paper	47%	47%
Irving Bk	n.a	n.a
Jhns & Jhns	85%	84%
K Mart	35%	34%
Kerr McGee	37%	37%
Kimbrly Clrk	59	59%
Knight Ridr	45%	45
Kraft	n.a	n.a
Kroger	8%	8%
LTV Cp	2%	2%
Litton	74%	73%
Lockheed	43%	43%
Lone Star	27%	27%
Man H'nver	29%	29
Manville	7%	7%
Mapco	55%	55%
Marriott	32%	32
Mt Marrietta	40%	40%
Masco Cp	25%	25%
Mcdonalds	46%	46%
McDonnell	78%	78
Mead Cp	41	41%
Merck	58%	57%
Minstta Mng	61%	60%
Mobil	46%	46%
Monsanto	83%	81%
Montedison	15%	n.a
Morgan Jp	34%	34%
Motorola	42	42%
NCR	55%	55%
NL Indstrs	19	18%
Nat Med Ent	24%	24%
Nat Semi	9%	9%
Norfolk Sth	31%	31%
NW Bancrp	32%	32%
Occid Pet	25%	25%
Ogden Cp	30%	30%
Olin Cp	51%	51%
PPG Ind	42%	42%
Pac Enterp	38%	38%
Pac Gas El	17%	17%
Pan Am	2%	2%
Penney JC	50%	51

	Jan 11	Jan 10
Pennzoil	73%	73%
Pepsico	39%	38%
Pfizer	57%	57%
Phelps Dod	53	52%
Philip Mor	101	100%
Philip Ptrl	21	20%
Pillsbury	n.a	65%
Polaroid	37%	36%
Primerica	22%	22%
Proct Gble	87%	88%
Pub S E G	24%	24%
R Nabisco	94%	94%
Raytheon	66%	66%
Rynlds Metl	58%	56%
Rockwell Int	21%	21%
Royal Dutch	114%	113%
SFE Sopac	18%	18%
Sara Lee	45%	44%
Schlumb	34%	33%
Scott Paper	39%	39%
Seagram	63%	62%
Sears Roeb	42	41%
Sec Pac	35%	35%
Shell Trans	36%	36%
Smith Beck	50%	51%
Sony Cp	59%	59%
SW Bell	41	40%
Squibb	64%	64%
Sun Comp	31%	31%
TDK	75%	75%
TRW Inc	42%	42
Teledyne	339%	337%
Tenneco	49%	49%
Texaco	53%	53%
Tex Eastn	29%	29%
Texas Inst	41%	41%
Tex Util	28%	28%
Textron	24%	24%
Travelers	35%	35
UAL Cp	109	108
USG Cp	5%	5%
USX Cp	31%	31
Unilever Plc	33%	33%
Un Carbide	26%	26%
Un Pac Cp	67%	66%
Unisys Cp	28%	29
Unit Brand	16%	16%
Us West	57%	57%
Utd Tech	41%	41%
Unocal	40	39%
Warn Lamb	75	75%
Wells Far	59%	59%
Westg El	53%	52%
Weyershr	26%	26%
Whirlpool	25%	25%
Woolworth	54%	53%
Xerox Cp	59%	59%
Zenith	19%	18%

CANADIAN PRICES

Agnico Eag	11%	11%
Alcan Alum	41%	40%
Can Pacific	22%	22%
Cominco	25%	25
Con Bathrst	15%	15%
Hawk S Can	23	23
Hud Bay M	25%	25
Imasco	29%	28%
Imperial Oil	54%	54%
Inco	31%	31%
Royl Trstco	16%	16%
Seagram	75%	75%
Shell Can	44%	44%
Stelco	23%	23%
Thmsn N 'A'	27%	27%
Varity Cp	3.55	3.55
WCE	16%	15%
Weston	36%	36

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon (*453)	420	36	53	63	1	5	12
	460	5	25	38	11	20	26
	500	1	11	23	48	51	53
Brit Air (*169)	140	28	31	34	¾	2	5
	160	9	16	18	2	6	10
	180	¾	6	10	16	19	23
Brit Com (*210)	200	11	21	26	4	8	10
	220	2	11	14	18	18	21
	240	½	4	8	34	34	38
Brit Steel (*66)	50	14¾	16½	17½	¼	½	1¼
	60	4¾	7½	9	¼	1½	4
	70	½	2¼	3¾	6¾	6½	10
BP (*257)	220	38	42	44	½	1¾	2½
	240	18	22½	26½	1	5	6
	260	2½	7½	16	6	14	16
Bass (*840)	750	97	120	145	1	3	5
	800	46	77	103	3	10	16
	850	7	43	67	15	23	30
C & W (*371)	360	15	32	44	4	11	18
	390	2	15	24	23	25	32
	420	1	6	14	51	54	54
Cons Gold (*1235)	1200	65	125	165	16	65	90
	1250	32	95	140	40	90	125
	1300	17	75	115	80	120	150
Courtauld (*280)	240	43	50	57	1	2	6
	260	23	34	42	1½	6	12
	280	7	21	30	7	14	22
Com Union (*350)	300	52	58	62	2	4	5
	330	23	30	40	2½	9	14
	360	2½	10	22	14	26	28
GKN (*310)	280	33	40	48	1	5	7
	300	15	24	32	2½	10	15
	330	1½	8	17	21	30	33
Grand Met (*449)	420	31	38	55	1	8	12
	454	4	17	-	10	24	-
	493	¾	5½	-	46	53	-
ICI (*1072)	950	130	140	157	1	7	12
	1000	80	95	117	2	14	20
	1050	32	52	83	7	30	35
	1100	7	28	58	32	57	63
Jaguar (*279)	240	39	45	49	1	4	8
	260	19	26	36	1½	10	15
	280	5	15	25	9	19	26
Land Sec (*554)	500	57	72	83	1	6	11
	550	11	38	50	9	19	27
	600	2	14	25	50	50	55
M & S (*156)	140	16	23	25	1	3	5
	160	2½	7	12	6½	9	11½
	180	½	2½	4½	26	27	26
STC (*277)	260	20	29	37	3	7	12
	280	6	16	24	12	15	20
	300	2	7	17	25	23	32
Sainsbury (*206)	180	26½	31	35	1	2½	4
	200	8	15	22	2½	6	12
	220	1	7	12	17	19	22
Shell (*345)	317	27	34	40	1	5	6
	333	12	20	29	3	11	12
	350	2½	11	16	12	21	21
Storehse (*189)	180	13	23	32	2½	12	16
	200	3½	14	22	15	22	25
	220	2	8	15	32	35	40
Trafalgar (*293)	280	19	28	32	3	5	10
	300	4	16	22	11	14	20
	330	2	6	10	38	38	42
Utd Bisc (*315)	280	37	50	59	1	8	11
	300	18	37	45	3	15	19
	330	5½	21	32	20	31	36
Ultramar (*292)	275	23	34	-	2½	11	-
	294	9	22	-	8	21	-
	324	1½	-	-	32	-	-
Woolworth (*244)	220	24	32	36	1½	5	8
	240	7	16	21	5	10	14
	260	1½	8	11	19	19	22
	Series	Jan	Apr	Aug	Jan	Apr	Aug
GEC (*216)	180	37	42	49	1	3	7
	200	18	27	35	1½	9	12
	220	6	18	24	11	16	22
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jun	Jan	Apr	Jun
R-Royce (*142)	120	23½	28½	30	½	1½	3
	130	13½	19½	20	¾	2½	5½
	140	5	10½	13½	2½	5½	9½
TSB (*109)	100	10	12½	-	½	3	-
	110	1½	5½	7½	3½	6½	7½
	120	½	2½	4	13	13	14
	Series	Feb	Apr	Jul	Feb	Apr	Jul
Ladbroke (*431)	390	49	-	-	1	-	-
	420	23	34	42	6	10	15
	460	4½	12	24	30	32	37
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Brit Aero (*488)	420	58	64	79	3	11	13
	460	27	35	51	11	24	28
	500	8	18	30	35	48	55
BAA (*272)	240	36	43	46	1	2½	4
	260	17	27	32	2½	5	9
	280	5½	18	20	12	14	19
BAT Ind (*453)	420	40	50	59	1½	7½	10
	460	11	23	34	12½	23	26
	500	1½	8½	-	49	53	-
Brit Tele (*266)	220	53	60	-	1	1	-
	240	33	40	45	1	2½	4
	260	13	23	26	3	5	8½
Cadbury (*339)	330	22	34	46	9	18	23
	360	8½	21	31	27	33	41
	390	4	13	19	55	55	58
Guinness (*332)	300	36	44	52	1	3	5
	330	11	24	28	7	14	16
	360	3	10	14	32	34	36
LASMO (*493)	420	87	100	115	5	15	20
	460	50	73	86	10	27	35
	500	27	50	66	28	45	55

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
P & O (*545)	500	57	67	72	4	12	14
	550	18	32	40	14	28	32
	600	3	11	18	58	63	63
Pilkington (*222)	200	25	34	37	2	5	8
	220	10	19	24	6	10	15
	240	4	10	12	21	22	24
Plessey (*231)	200	35	45	52	2	5	7
	220	19	29	35	4½	9	11
	240	8	17	21	13	17	21
Prudential (*155)	140	21	23	26	2	3	5
	160	5	9	11	7	11	13
	180	1	3	-	25	26	-
Racal (*297)	240	62	70	74	1	3	5
	260	43	52	52	2	5	10
	280	27	38	42	6	10	16
RTZ (*454)	390	68	78	85	2	6	8
	420	38	53	62	4	12	16
	460	13	25	38	20	28	35
Vaal Reefs (*567)	60	11	14	15	2	6½	6½
	70	3½	6½	9	8	11	13
	80	1½	2½	5	17	20	22
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Amstrad (*166)	140	32	38	44	2	4	5
	160	16	25	30	7	11	13
	180	6½	14	20	19	20	23
Barclays (*422)	390	43	47	58	7	8	13
	420	14	27	35	18	18	23
	460	4	10	-	50	50	-
Blue Circ (*457)	390	80	86	94	3	4	8
	420	54	58	72	4	11	14
	460	24	34	46	16	24	28
Dixons (*135)	120	21	28	32	3	4½	8
	130	15	21	23	5	8½	12
	140	10	15	18	10	14	16
Glaxo (*1066)	1100	47	82	114	47	60	67
	1150	25	60	-	77	87	-
	1200	15	39	-	124	124	-
Hawker (*569)	500	87	95	110	2	8	12
	550	47	55	75	14	22	26
	600	16	27	-	35	50	-
Hillsdown (*239)	220	30	35	41	1½	4½	5½
	240	15	21	26	8	11	11
	260	6½	11	-	19	22	-
Lonrho (*335)	330	31	45	54	21	31	40
	360	18	32	41	42	52	58
	390	10	23	31	66	71	78
Midland (*424)	390	47	53	60	5	8	13
	420	18	32	38	15	17	20
	460	3	10	-	47	47	-
Sears (*113)	100	18½	22½	25	2½	4	5
	110	11	14	18	5	7	9½
	120	5½	8½	13	10	14	15
THF (*253)	240	25½	35	42	6½	10	12
	260	14½	23	31	15½	18½	22
	280	7½	15½	-	30	31	-
Thorn EMI (*660)	600	82	92	94	5	12	16
	650	37	52	57	15	24	37
	700	14	23	-	46	62	-
Wellcome (*434)	390	56	69	84	3½	7½	11
	420	32	49	63	12	18	19
	460	13	27	-	33	36	-
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Boots (*236)	200	47	53	-	1½	4	-
	220	30	36	42	4	7	10
	240	15	20	29	11	14	17
	Series	Jan	Mar	Jun	Jan	Mar	Jun
Brit Gas (*160)	140	21	24	29	½	1	2
	160	2	7	12½	2½	4½	6
	180	½	1½	4	21	21	22
	Series	Jan			Jan		
RHM (*384)	330	38	-	-	1½	-	-
	360	10	-	-	5	-	-
	390	3	-	-	28	-	-
	Series	Mar	Jul	Oct	Mar	Jul	Oct
Beecham (*493)	420	85	100	110	2	6	7
	460	51	68	80	6	14	16
	500	24	43	56	20	26	31
Unilever (*470)	420	62	72	85	2	6	8
	460	28	42	55	11	16	20
	500	9	21	36	34	37	37
	Series	Mar	May	Aug	Mar	May	Aug
BTR (*310)	280	40	40	46	1½	3½	5
	300	22	24	31	4½	8½	11
	330	6½	8½	16	21	26	28
Hanson (*158)	140	22½	26	27½	¾	1½	2
	160	6½	10	12½	5	6	8
	180	1	3	5	22	22	22
Tesco (*137)	120	20	22	24	1½	2½	4
	130	11	15	18	4	7	8
	140	5	8½	12	8	12	13
	Series	Jan	Mar		Jan	Mar	
Enterprise (*504)	460	48	70	-	3	15	-
	500	18	44	-	15	32	-
	550	5	22	-	55	65	-
Scot & New (*399)	360	41	52	-	1	5	-
	390	12	32	-	3	14	-
	420	1	18	-	23	27	-

FT-SE INDEX (*1846)

Series	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
1700	155	167	178	185	1½	4	8	9
1750	105	117	133	142	2½	8	12	16
1800	59	75	86	100	5	15	20	28
1850	21	41	57	67	19	32	38	43
1900	4	16	25	40	58	62	65	67
1950	1	5	-	-	108	108	-	-

January 12, 1989 Total: 55068 Calls 44085 Puts 11003 FT-SE: Calls 4287 Puts 3281

*Underlying security price.

A VOTE FOR THE FUTURE



We believe that in an increasingly competitive market, financial strength is essential for our success.

Financial strength allows profitable expansion and reduced unit costs. It gives greater freedom of investment, with the potential for better returns.

The proposed merger with AMP will give London Life that strength.

In addition, it will provide for an immediate allocation of £15 million to the London Life Fund, and makes possible the declaration of a special bonus to all qualifying policyholders.

Of all the numerous options considered, your Board is convinced that the merger with AMP offers the best combination of financial security, further capital to fund profitable development and reduce costs, and better bonus prospects.

Please do not risk losing the benefits of the merger. If you need information or assistance, simply telephone the Merger Helpdesk on 0800 717111 (Free).

We need your support. We need your vote.

LONDON LIFE

Established 1806

A Member of LAUTRO

FURTHER DETAILS ON THE PROPOSED MERGER ARE SET OUT IN CIRCULARS TO MEMBERS AND POLICYHOLDERS DATED 4TH JANUARY 1989. IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE ACTION YOU SHOULD TAKE, YOU SHOULD CONSULT YOUR PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.

هكذا من الأصل

Merge or fall back, business schools told

By Roland Rudd, Employment Affairs Reporter

British business schools must merge or face becoming second-class institutions.

This warning comes from Sir Douglas Hague, visiting professor at Manchester Business School, and former head of the Prime Minister's economic and policy research unit.

Sir Douglas said the amalgamation of IMEDE and IMI, the Swiss management schools, posed a serious threat to British business schools. He predicted that the conglomerate is likely to become Europe's leading business school.

Sir Douglas bluntly told Britain's top business schools that they were too small to compete successfully against the new merged schools. He said none has the critical mass of brain power among facility members needed to challenge IMEDE / IMI's European domination.

"British schools are individually too small to keep themselves abreast of latest thinking and practice in businesses and business schools throughout the world," Sir Douglas said. "They need to follow the example of IBM, which has large enough resources to do this in developing its own training programme."

Sir Douglas urged Manchester Business School, London Business School, Cranfield and Warwick to merge into one big British school.

"It is not enough to disseminate today's standard practice; business schools must propogate tomorrow's best practice in order to produce the managers of the future," he said.



Sir Douglas: merger call

He went on to praise Cranfield for its attempts to do this by forging links with some of Britain's most advanced companies.

Sir Douglas, who is chairman of Metapraxis, the management consultancy, said he wanted to revolutionize business practice through the introduction of information technology-based management techniques at board level.

He said the opportunity to monitor such developments would be greatly increased by the amalgamation of British business schools.

More resources would also result in the ability to finance a small "think-tank" to monitor developments.

He added: "This would allow the design of programmes which would be sufficiently broadly based and far-sighted to give British business schools the pre-eminence in Europe they ought to have."

Law Report January 13 198

Condition of upholding service out of the jurisdiction

Attock Cement Company Ltd v Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade

Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Woolf and Lord Justice Staughton

[Judgment December 21]

Where a question of fact which was essential to the application of Order 11, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, allowing service of proceedings out of the jurisdiction, was in dispute the judge had to reach a provisional or tentative conclusion in favour of the plaintiff before allowing service to stand.

A performance bond was ordinarily governed by the law of the place where payment under it was to be made and was not affected by the proper law of the commercial transaction under which the bond had been issued.

The Court of Appeal so held in rejecting an appeal by the plaintiff, Attock Cement Company Ltd, against a decision of Mr Justice Leggatt setting aside service of proceedings out of the jurisdiction upon the defendant, Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade.

Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr Peter Roth for the plaintiff; Mr Michael Burton, QC, Mr Roger Ter Haar and Miss Emma Griffiths for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that the case raised in an acute form the question of the proper standard of proof on whether an action fell within Order 11, rule 1.

The plaintiffs alleged an oral agreement that a performance bond was governed by English law and subject to English jurisdiction. The defendant denied any such agreement.

Was the court then required, in terms of *The Supreme Court Practice 1988* paragraph 11/1/6 "to look primarily at the plaintiff's case, and not to attempt to try disputes of fact on affidavit"?

The plaintiff's submitted that that was indeed the law. The court could decide against the plaintiff if it found its evidence "incredible", for there was not then a good arguable case. Otherwise it had to accept the plaintiff's evidence.

It might well be that the problem was even more difficult when the issue as to jurisdiction was not one which would occur again at trial in connection with liability. For example, if service in the present case was allowed to stand, it was unlikely that there would be any issue at the trial as to the proper law of the performance bond.

It was plain to his Lordship from *Vitkovice Horni a Hutni Tezirstvo v Korner* ([1951] AC 869) that a master or judge might on some occasions find himself obliged to assess the relative strength of the plaintiff's and the defendant's cases.

In doing so he did not try the case upon affidavits, because he reached only a provisional conclusion; the stage for trial and for final decision had not been reached. But he had to have regard to all the admissible material before him, not just the plaintiff's case.

He must conclude that there was a good arguable case (Lord Simonds) — not just a case that could be argued; or a strong argument (Lord Radcliffe). What need not be shown was that the plaintiff was right beyond all reasonable doubt.

Save in the speech of Lord Tucker, which dealt with a specific problem, his Lordship could not find in the decision any express consideration of the balance of probability.

Nevertheless he concluded that, where there was a disputed question of fact which was essential to the application of Order 11, rule 1, the judge must reach a provisional or tentative conclusion that the plaintiff was probably right upon it before he allowed service to stand.

It was unnecessary to decide whether some additional burden should, as Lord Tucker suggested, be laid on a plaintiff who invoked Order 11, rule 1 on some ground which would not arise for re-examination at the trial. The motive for imposing such an additional burden was understandable but it was difficult to see how Order 11, rule 4(2) could be read as imposing a heavier burden in that case than in any other.

His Lordship added that the master or judge should do his best to discourage voluminous evidence or prolonged argument as to whether it was fulfilled. The decision which had to be made was necessarily of a provisional or tentative nature. It would be a disservice to the law if the process of determination were treated as a trial in all but name.

The most difficult aspect of the *Vitkovice* decision was the suggestion that, in applying the appropriate standard of proof to determine whether one of the conditions laid down by Order 11, rule 1 was fulfilled, the court was exercising a discretion. That featured from time to time in the speeches.

There was no argument before the court on the point but in his Lordship's provisional opinion, the assessment by a master or judge of whether the standard of proof required under Order 11, rule 1, that one of the required conditions was fulfilled, was not the exercise of a discretion. It was a judgment as to past or existing fact.

His Lordship's tentative or provisional conclusion in this case was that an oral agreement for proper law and jurisdiction was not made out.

In the alternative, the plaintiff argued that the performance bond was by implication governed by English law. That argument was founded on the principle stated in *Dicey & Morris, The Conflict of Laws* (11th edition (1987) p1185): "The legal or commercial connection between one contract and another may enable a court to say that the parties must be held implicitly to have submitted both contracts to the same law."

Almost every letter of credit or performance bond was issued pursuant to some underlying commercial transaction. Yet the court was referred to no case where it had even been argued that one was affected by the proper law of the other.

Seeing that the letter of credit or performance bond was intended to be a separate transaction, his Lordship would hold that it was not so affected, and was ordinarily governed by the law of the place where payment was to be made under it.

That was in accord with the rule applicable to the banker-customer relationship arising from a current or deposit account, which was ordinarily governed by the law of the place where the account was kept: *Libyan Arab Foreign Bank v Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co* ([1988] 2 Lloyd's Rep 494).

The Vice-Chancellor and Lord Justice Woolf agreed.

Solicitors: Amhurst Brown Colombotti; Simon Olswang & Co.

Establishing the defence of economic duress

Atlas Express Ltd v Kafco (Importers and Distributors) Ltd

Before Mr Justice Tucker

[Judgment January 10]

The defence of economic duress was established when the court found that when the defendant had, under protest, signed a contract with revised terms of carriage, the plaintiff knew that had the defendant not signed, the plaintiff would have refused to carry the defendant's goods and the defendant would have lost a contract with a large customer who would have sued him for breach of that contract.

Mr Justice Tucker so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing a claim by the plaintiffs, Atlas Express Ltd, against the defendants, Kafco (Importers and Distributors) Ltd for £10,970.37, arising out of a contract made between them on November 18, 1986.

Mr David Fisher for the plaintiffs; Mr Ian Foster for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE TUCKER said that Atlas were well-known carriers of parcels in the United Kingdom; Kafco imported basketware for sale.

By October 1986 Kafco had secured a contract with F. W. Woolworth plc for the delivery of their wares to some 800 stores. After a visit to Kafco's premises by a Mr Hope, Atlas's representative, where he saw samples of the cartons which were to be carried, the parties agreed that from October 10, 1986 to May 31, 1987 such deliveries would be made by Atlas at the rate of £1.10 per carton, with a minimum charge of £7.50 per consignment.

That contract had been confirmed by a Telex of October 13 which had simply recorded the rate per carton.

Nothing was put in writing as to the maximum size of carton to be carried; but the largest, measuring 8ft by 15in in diameter, had been among those seen by Mr Hope who had not told Kafco on what basis he had calculated his price of £1.10.

After a few weeks, Mr Hope had concluded that that price was not a viable one for Atlas: and he knew that Kafco were committed to Woolworths — who would, if they failed to deliver, both sue them and cease dealing with them.

On November 17 Atlas wrote suggesting an "updated" agreement be signed; the next day such an agreement was brought to Kafco by one of Atlas's drivers, who told Kafco's representative, Mr Armiger, that his instructions were not to carry away any goods that day unless Kafco signed it.

Mr Armiger had protested and had tried to contact Mr Hope, who was (his Lordship inferred, deliberately) unavailable. Feeling "over a barrel", as he knew it would be impossible at that late stage to secure alternative transport, Mr Armiger had then signed the new agreement; but he continued to protest.

In due course Kafco responded to Atlas' invoices by tendering sums calculated on the original agreement and in response to that action had contended they were not bound by the second agreement by reason of duress and for want of consideration.

The question, whether a defence of economic duress, as distinct from the common law defence of physical duress, existed was an interesting one.

His Lordship referred to *D & C Builders Ltd v Rees* ([1965] 2 QB 617, 625) where Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls had said: "No person can insist on a settlement procured by intimidation"; to *Occidental Worldwide Investment Corporation v Skibs A/S Avanti* ([1976] 1 Lloyd's Rep 293, 336); *North Ocean Shipping Co Ltd v Hyundai Construction Co Ltd* ([1979] QB 705, 719) and *Pao On v Lau Yiu Long* ([1980] AC 614, 635) and concluded that in the instant case, Kafco's signature to the second agreement had been secured illegitimately; that they had at no stage approbated it; that economic duress was a concept recognized by English law; and that in this case it vitiated Kafco's apparent consent to the second agreement.

Further, his Lordship would hold that Atlas had provided no consideration for that second agreement. Their claim accordingly failed.

Solicitors: Shoosmiths & Harrison; Barlows, Chertsey.

Hawthorn Leslie rises 24% to £4m

By Wolfgang Münchau

Hawthorn Leslie, the USM-quoted electrical distributor and packaging group, announced a 24.5 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £3.3 million to £4.1 million for the year to end-August.

The company will extend its financial year by another four months to end-December to bring the financial year in line with the trading pattern, says Mr Remo Dipre, the chairman.

Turnover during the period increased by 50 per cent to £83 million. Earnings per share were up from 1.46p to 1.74p. The second interim dividend is 0.2p; with a final dividend of 0.2p being proposed, making a total of 0.6p.

Hawthorn became a leading mobile telephone service provider following last year's £15 million acquisition of ECT Cellular and London Car Telephones.

Since the acquisition of the two mobile service companies, the group has doubled its subscriber base to 25,000.

Mr Dipre pointed out that the results of ECT were lower than those previously stated because of "more conservative accounting policies." There were also additional costs, which he hopes will be "more than compensated for in future income."

Mr Dipre added that Mr Christopher Rycroft, the former chairman of Adam Leisure Group, into which Hawthorn Leslie reversed two years ago, will resign from the board at the end of the month. He will be replaced by Mr David Medhurst, the managing director of Adam.

Gardiner up to £1.89m

Gardiner Group, the electronic security equipment distributor, lifted pre-tax profits from £1.22 million to £1.89 million in the year to end-October. Turnover rose from £15.2 million to £17.8 million.

Since coming to the market last year the group has carried out a substantial capital restructuring — Automated Security Holdings and Scantronic each took a 20 per cent stake in the company last August. The group added 11 branches to its existing 10 and plans more openings.

Earnings per share rose from 2.39p to 3.10p and there is a final dividend of 0.5p, making 0.75p. The shares remained unchanged at 46p.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 9	January 20	April 13	April 24

Call options were taken out on: 12/1/89 Cresta Holdings, Samson, Wimpey, Blue Arrow, Jaguar, Domino Printing.
Put: Asda Property.
Put & Call: Blacks Leisure.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Apollo Metals (58p)	66
Apollo Watch (58p)	30 +1
Ass Farmers	68
BMSS (118p)	118
Bardon Group	157 –2
Betacom (82p)	72 +2
Bletchley Motor (200p)	185 –3
Bostrom (135p)	150 +2
Brit Steel P/P (60p)	65½ +1¾
Bucknall Aust (110p)	103
Builder Gp (125p)	148
Channel Express (70p)	75 +2
Compass Group (245p)	271 +2
Com-Tek 16 1-(2p)	18
Derby Group (115p)	146
Dawsongroup (154p)	152
EW Fact (84p)	88
Edinburgh Hibernian (55p)	63
Haemocell (85p)	141 –2
Hildong Estate	90
Kromagraphic (10p)	17½
Metro Radio (110p)	148 +2
Planning Research (120p)	108 –2
Portminion Pots (180p)	182
Racal Telecom (170p)	200½ +5½
Sandell (117p)	118
Secure Trust (140p)	159
Unit Group (140p)	145 –2
Venture Plant (95p)	98

RIGHTS ISSUES

BLP N/P	1¼
Dinkie Heal N/P	3
Munton N/P	¾ –¾
Peel Hldgs N/P	1¼ –½
Redicut N/P	9½ +2
Richards N/P	4 –3
Woodingtons N/P	

(Issue price in brackets).

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
ADT	1,098	CU	2,968	Laporte	382	Saatchi	1,029
Abbey	817	Cons Gold	61	L&G	2,894	Sainsbury	1,618
Allid-Lyons	1,952	Cookson	879	Lloyds	2,040	Scot & N	766
Amstrad	671	Courtaulds	1,027	Lonrho	6,506	Sears	3,530
ASDA	3,933	Dalgety	178	Lucas	1,054	Sedgwick	669
AB Foods	114	Dixons	4,773	Magnet	503	Shell	3,394
Argyll	3,821	ECC	875	M&S	3,977	Siebe	322
BAA	1,597	Enterprise	1,713	Maxwell Cm	1,904	Slough	228
BET	1,123	Ferranti	1,045	MB Group	2,562	Smith & N	3,645
BTR	1,945	Fisons	2,557	MEPC	503	Smith WH	284
BAT	651	FKI Babck	695	Midland	3,586	Smiths Ind	387
Barclays	1,997	Gateway Cp	4,821	NatWest	4,328	STC	6,121
Bass	885	Gen Acc	1,144	Next	2,013	Stan Chart	455
Beecham	2,268	GEC	27,571	Nth Food	920	Storehse	5,502
Bezaor	1,222	Glaxo	3,906	P&O	229	Sun Alnce	282
Berisfd SW	192	Globe Inv	332	Pearl	855	T & N	238
BICC	859	Glynwed	1,118	Pearson	851	Tarmac	270
Blue Arrow	2,891	Granada	457	Pilkington	2,342	Tate & Lyle	2,789
Blue Circle	1,016	Grand Met	2,072	Plessey	196,588	Taylor Wood	113
BOC	2,456	GUS 'A'	188	Polly Peck	945	TSB	5,643
Boots	2,798	GRE	1,011	Prudential	1,087	Tesco	274
BPB	1,451	GKN	1,524	Racal	4,127	Thorn EMI	9,821
Br Aero	2,055	Guinness	1,951	Racal Tele	2,915	Trafalgar	610
Br Airways	4,809	Hamm 'A'	1,276	Rk Hovis	1,199	THF	6,472
Br Comm	2,438	Hanson	15,753	Rank	249	Utramar	2,068
Br Gas	6,192	H & C	237	R&C	359	Ungate	998
Br Land	318	Hawker	1,201	Redland	117	Unilever	252
Br Petrol	6,092	Hillsdown	2,751	Reed	203	United Bis	1,996
Br Telecm	46,212	IMI	278	Reuters	1,798	Utd News	1,051
Bunzl	2,389	ICI	2,794	RMC Gp	303	Wellcome	300
Burmah	254	Inchcape	146	RTZ	2,091	Whitbrd	1,689
Burton	4,331	Jaguar	1,347	R-Royce	4,985	Williams	1,250
C&W	3,991	Lasmo	1,472	Rothmn 'B'	580	Wills Fab	358
Cadbury	1,657	Ladbroke	1,180	Royal Bank	112	Wimpey G	5,602
Coats	970	Land Sec	718	Royal Ins	474	Woolworth	894

A major function of a life assurance company is to plan ahead. That's why AMP is building on existing strength to safeguard all policyholders in the coming decade and beyond.

'90s

For 140 years, Australian Mutual Provident has been protecting the future security of its policyholders.

Today, we serve some 2 million policyholders, who represent 30% of all the life assurance business in Australia.

We're the largest institutional investor in Australia.

We're significant investors in leading international markets.

Currently, our funds under management are valued at over £12 billion.

In an increasingly competitive and uncertain world, we mean to go on growing profitably; to provide new products and services; and apply our skills in new markets. And, above all, to give all our customers more security and competitive future results.

That's why we are planning a merger with London Life – a UK life company that shares our commitment to high standards and service. And that's why our involvement is good news for both present and future members of London Life.

Today. In the 1990s. And beyond.

AMP GROUP

A Member of LAUTRO

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Widespread gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 28. Dealings end today. §Contango day January 16. Settlement day January 23. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.

(VOLUMES PAGE 25)

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or betters this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Wimpey G (za)	Building,Roads	
2	Ryl Bk Scot (za)	Banks,Discount	
3	Tomkins	Industrials S-Z	
4	Wolverhmpn & D	Breweries	
5	Travis Perkins	Building,Roads	
6	Wickes	Drapery,Stores	
7	Bulmer (H P)	Breweries	
8	Amersham	Chemicals,Plas	
9	Smith (WH) 'A' (za)	Drapery,Stores	
10	TI	Industrials S-Z	
11	ADT (za)	Industrials A-D	
12	Reuters (za)	Industrials L-R	
13	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
14	Marley	Building,Roads	
15	Midland (za)	Banks,Discount	
16	Beecham (za)	Industrials A-D	
17	Williams Hldgs (za)	Industrials S-Z	
18	GR	Industrials E-K	
19	Wilson Bowden	Building,Roads	
20	Gleeson (MJ)	Building,Roads	
21	Utd Scientific	Electricals	
22	BPB Ind (za)	Building,Roads	
23	Racal Elect (za)	Electricals	
24	Goring Kerr	Industrials E-K	
25	Arnclliffe	Building,Roads	
26	Securicor	Industrials S-Z	
27	Gateway Corp (za)	Foods	
28	Salvesen (Chrstn)	Foods	
29	Wellcome (za)	Industrials S-Z	
30	Coalite	Chemicals,Plas	
31	Ash & Lacey	Industrials A-D	
32	Prestwich Hldgs	Industrials L-R	
33	Rentokil	Chemicals,Plas	
34	Colorall Gp	Industrials A-D	
35	Gestetner	Industrials E-K	
36	Ward Group	Building,Roads	
37	Trusthouse Ft (za)	Hotels,Caterers	
38	Tibbs & Britten	Drapery,Stores	
39	IMI (za)	Industrials E-K	
40	Volex	Electricals	
41	Lovell (YJ)	Building,Roads	
42	Warner Howard	Industrials S-Z	
43	Brendon PLC	Building,Roads	
44	RHM (za)	Foods	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000

Claims required for 47 points

ACCUMULATOR £96,000

Claims better than 47 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 28

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

a Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures s Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

هكذا من الأصل

"OUR COMPANY WAS HOVERING. WITH KELLOCK IT'S SOARING."

Chris Bennett, Managing Director, Alison Associates, Reading.



Chris Bennett started Alison Associates in 1978.

The company conceives and develops data systems for the motor industry.

Their products help dealers and manufacturers keep control of their businesses, reporting current performance and providing plans and cash flow forecasts.

It was, ironically, cash flow hold-ups (endemic to many vigorous, growing businesses) which pointed Alison Associates in Kellock's direction in 1983.

"To be honest, we weren't very good at collecting money," confesses Chris.

"And we weren't really interested in chasing customers. We just wanted to get on with what we were good at.

"Speaking of which, we'd like to put in a special word here for Martin Hudson, our Kellock Client Manager.

"We'd never have achieved the performance Martin has. He's been fantastic."

Chris uses Kellock for support in his sales ledger administration, credit control and collection.

(He sends his invoices to Kellock who then forward payment to Alison Associates immediately.)

"Kellock have been the making of us. We couldn't have expanded without their brand of factoring. A regular in-flow of cash has enabled us to finance a level of sales which we'd never have reached otherwise."

Turnover of Alison Associates has increased tenfold over the last five years and the company now employs more than 70 people.

"We've recently set up a new training department and we're actively looking to take over other related businesses.

"Profits are good, our position secure," smiles Chris. And his many top-name clients are equally happy.

Would you like your business to fly even higher?

Call 0734 585511 today.



Our Commercial Director, Ian Fitz-Harris and his team are waiting to talk to you about Kellock factoring (domestic and international), invoice discounting or trade finance.

Member of Bank of Scotland Group

To take off, pick up the 'phone. Kellock Limited, Abbey Gardens, 4 Abbey Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 3BA.

Regional offices in Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Manchester.

KELLOCK

WE GIVE YOUR BUSINESS WINGS.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

THIRD MARKET

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

MONEY MARKETS

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

COMMODITIES

هكذا من الأصل

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Edited by David Young

Does your firm need the shrink?

Turning a psychologist loose on your technical documentation to make it understandable hardly sounds the kind of business service you either need or can easily find, *writes Ian A. Jack.*

However, you do need it, says Tom Hay, and it can be found at Durham, where the Business and Innovation Support Team, of which Mr Hay is a project co-ordinator, is acquiring a reputation for solving technical difficulties.

Mr Hay, seconded from ICI with 30 years' experience as a project engineer, works with David Mullen, who handles business queries, in a project funded by Durham University and the Department of Trade and Industry. They link small businesses with the university's business school and industrial laboratories, which can call on the expertise of other universities and polytechnics and an array of enterprise agency and innovation centre support.

"Knowing where to go for the right advice is critical for companies," says Mr Hay.

A table mat business had a problem of wrinkling edges, which was found to be due to the glue. The creator of a vandal-proof plastic seat sought advice on moulding techniques.

Charges to clients are between 20 and 45 per cent of the costs.

● **Contact:** Business and Innovation Support Team, Durham Mountjoy Research Centre, Durham DH1 3SW (091-374 2254).

A new look in glass

By Brian Collett

Stained glass seemed like a good idea at the time to Linda Lee. So last April she started her own business making it in her own special way, and with the end of the financial year now in sight she expects her first annual turnover to be £40,000.

Miss Lee had tired of the dating agency she had been running. "I didn't like being in a service industry where you had to wait passively," she said.

She preferred manufacturing, and at an exhibition nearly two years ago she found what she was looking for — an unusual process of producing stained-glass windows. The coloured design goes straight on to the glass as a relief, instead of being composed of separate coloured sections joined together with lead.

"All the people in the know said the timing was right," she said. "There is a resurgence of interest in stained glass. In the United States and Japan stained glass produced by this method is doing a roaring trade. To see it I visited Sweden, the nearest country that produces it."

Hence the good idea of making it in Britain. However, 11 bank managers refused to back Miss Lee's initiative and she even thought of giving up. Then her idea was rescued by a £5,000 loan from Shell, administered through the London Enterprise Agency (LEntA). This money was augmented by another loan from Lloyd's of London. Ultimately, even a bank stumped up some valuable funds.



Reflecting on a new venture: Linda Lee found the time was just right to enter the stained glass market

Miss Lee moved her Artful Glass company into one of the units in a former grain warehouse in Spitalfields in east London that had been bought and refurbished by LEntA Business Space, a division of the enterprise agency. She has a business partner and uses casual employees to help her to meet her orders.

One of her commissions was for 31 windows at the Old Shades pub in Whitehall, central London. She now expects to win orders for stained-glass displays in several pubs owned by the Whitbread brewery. What is the appeal of this type of stained glass? "It's different. It does look lovely," says 31-year-old Miss Lee. "Go into the Old Shades and see for yourself!"

● Contact: Linda Lee, Artful Glass, 01-247 9777.

BRIEFLY

■ Most small businesses want their banks to provide a detailed breakdown of their bank charges. The Forum of Private Businesses has surveyed its 12,900 members and found that the overwhelming majority — 92 per cent — would prefer more information on how charges are made. Only 5 per cent were against seeking changes and 3 per cent had no firm opinion on the matter.

One member said: "There is a complete smokescreen concealing the basis of bank charges, which leads to fundamental distrust." Another said: "We are paying more and more for less and less, but I fear all banks are the same."

Stan Mendham, the Forum chief executive, said: "By failing to identify the make-up of charges, banks are robbing their business customers of the chance to reduce their costs by changing their method of operation or by shopping around for a cheaper bank."

■ **Do you get confused by the business advice you receive? Is this because it is written in such awful jargon? Price Waterhouse, the large accountancy company, claims to take the jargon out of marketing for the small operator in its new booklet, *Marketing for Young Businesses*. The booklet also aims to take the mystery out of marketing, as weaknesses in this area are the cause of 90 per cent of the failures among new businesses. Barry Baldwin, Price Waterhouse's independent business services director, says most entrepreneurs have the instinct for marketing and that the booklet merely explains the rules. The response to the booklet has been "unbelievable". The company's office in Windsor, Berkshire, alone has had 300 requests for it.**

***Marketing for Young Businesses* is obtainable free from Publications Office, Price Waterhouse, Southwark Towers, 32 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SY (01-407 8989).**

■ A book on how to sell books has been rewritten and published by Malcolm Breckman, a teacher of English. Mr Breckman, who publishes under the business name of Malcolm Stewart Books, first wrote it in 1980 to help people who want to start a bookshop. He recently took a year away from teaching and expanded the book to its present 256 pages.

Topics covered in *Starting and Running a Bookshop* include trade discounts, tracking down obscure titles, finance and dealing with customers. The book has been adopted as a guide by the Booksellers' Association.

More information: Malcolm Breckman, Malcolm Stewart Books, 3 Vines Avenue, Finchley, London N3 2QD (01-349 2045).

MR FRIDAY



"I like January — the only time anyone listens to what I think"

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

FRANCHISES

NEW BREED NEW CHALLENGE

Prontaprint is Europe's largest and most successful chain of quick printing franchises. Over the last two years we have repositioned ourselves as the leading Business Service Centre offering printing, office supplies and communication services to the modern business.

We're looking for a new breed of dynamic entrepreneur ready to meet the challenge of Prontaprint's most exciting phase of development since its inception 18 years ago. We provide a comprehensive support package including initial training. If you have management experience (preferably sales orientated), plenty of enthusiasm and a minimum of £30,000 capital, you could be the partner we're looking for. If so contact us on 0325 483333 or write to:

The Franchise Manager, Prontaprint plc, Coniscliffe House, Darlington, Durham DL3 7EX.

Prontaprint!

Have You Got What it Takes?

More and more women are finding success running their own

MOLLY MAID FRANCHISE

The most successful international home cleaning service is offering franchise opportunities throughout the UK for an investment of £6,500.

● No experience needed ● Work from home
● Low Overheads ● Immediate Cashflow
● Comprehensive Training Programme
● Ongoing Head Office Support

For further information contact Pam Bader, Molly Maid UK., Hamilton Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4QY. Telephone (0753) 23383

GULTRONICS

LONDON'S LEADING AUTHORISED **TOSHIBA** COMPUTER DEALER

T-5100: POWERFUL DESK-TOP 386 PORTABLE



* 80386/16.0 MHz Processor
* Built-in 40 MB Hard-Disc Drive
* One 1.44 MB Built-In 3.5" Drive
* 2 MB RAM (Extendable to 4.00 MB)
* CGA & EGA Gas Plasma Display
* 80 x 25 Character Display
* MS DOS 3.3
* 12.2"(W) x 14.2"(D) x 3.6"(H)
* Weight 15lbs
* 230/115 Volts Auto-Switching

NEW LOW PRICES ON ALL MODELS RING: 01-580 9116 FOR DETAILS

SHOWROOMS: 223 Tottenham Court Road, W1 01-636 3539
Surrey: 43 Church Street, Croydon 01-681 3344
ALSO AVAILABLE: T1000, T1200FB/HB, T1600, T3100E, T3200, T5100, T5200

THE NEW GENERATION OF PRINTSHOPS

An exciting business opportunity is now available for U.K. franchise. AlphAGraphics Printshops Of The Future is the electronic printshop system linked worldwide to provide unequalled potential for franchised sales and earnings.

The first British stores, joining 300 around the world, are now open and franchise opportunities are available throughout the country.

Business experience, total commitment and a desire to be very successful are essential qualities. Relevant experience is not necessary as we provide extensive training, both in the U.K. and U.S.A.

We expect you to have liquid capital of £50,000 and we can help you obtain the further investment needed.

Our franchise could be your future as part of the AlphAGraphics Printshops Of The Future success story. Contact us today for a franchise information pack.

alphAgraphics
Printshops Of The Future
Ryedale Building, 58/60 Piccadilly, York YO1 1NX. Telephone (0904) 611344.

LOOKING TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

If you own and run a successful company which is more than three years old and you're planning future expansion, Cranfield School of Management, one of Europe's top business schools has a programme designed especially to help you.

Called the **BUSINESS GROWTH PROGRAMME** and run on a part-time basis over 3 months, it provides a unique opportunity to plan and achieve successful growth for your business. A team of unrivalled expertise drawn from venture capital houses, financial institutions and business consultancies contributes to the programme.

For information phone Eve Hussey on (0234) 751122 Ext 3282.

WHAT PRICE LEADERSHIP?

Fersina is recognised as the World's No.1.

With over 80 U.K. uPVC manufacturing franchises and an international network in over 20 countries Fersina are true market leaders.

There are opportunities for you too, to become a local business leader in areas throughout the U.K.

Selling, manufacturing and installing top quality uPVC windows and conservatories could provide a modest first year profit growing to a net £150,000 in the third year.

Become a leader..... and contact the Franchise Manager:

The World's No 1! **Fersina Windows Ltd** Fersina House, Carlton, Barnsley, S Yorks S71 3NH England. Telephone (0226) 728310 BRITISH FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION MEMBER NOTED

THE MANAGEMENT FRANCHISE

The UK's largest franchised office cleaning company has the following established businesses for sale.

AREA	INVESTMENT
E ANGLIA	£110,000
HUMBERSIDE	50,000
DEVON	65,000
SUSSEX	100,000

* 70% finance available *

* 9 am - 5 pm *
* No Saturdays *
* No Shop Premises *
* Instant Start-Up *

If you've the ability to motivate salesmen and manage admin/computer staff, over £50,000/£80,000 profits can be yours in third year. Essential service industry with repeat revenue.

To obtain prospectus contact: THE GLOBAL GROUP 8/10 High Street, Sutton, Surrey. 01-643 0138 (Full B.F.A. Member)

The Maids

Would you like a smartly uniformed team of highly trained and supervised women to arrive in a liveried vehicle with all their own special equipment, and quickly, professionally, clean your home? Of course you would. So do millions of others. That's why The Maids is the right idea at the right time.

Min. capital required £15,000
Total investment £35,000
2/3 finance can be arranged.

* Instant Start-up *
* No Shop Premises *
* No Saturdays *
* High Profits *

8-10 High Street, Sutton, Surrey. 01-643 0138

Compleat Cookshop

COOKWARE & FASHION HOUSEWARES RETAILING
FRANCHISES NOW AVAILABLE!
£20,000 minimum cash investment
for brochure and full details telephone 0296 433113
Compleat Cookshop Ltd. Enterprise House, Aylesbury. HP19 3QQ

DIRECTORY OF FRANCHISING 1989

Details of over 300 franchise companies, advice by experts on choosing the right franchise, specimen franchise contracts, etc.

PRICE: £25
Franchise World magazine
37 Nottingham Road
London SW17 7EA
Credit Cards 01-767 1371
BFA affiliate member

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPORT/LEISURE AND RUNNING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

All you need is the drive and determination to succeed + £2000 to fund your stockholding. Sale-or-return facility!

As the UK's leading clearance buyers in the sports trade we buy up £1000's worth of top branded clothing, footwear and equipment at prices well below manufacturers' cost.

We are looking for motivated people, committed to succeed, to run concessions on a part-time or full-time basis. DSR will provide the know how and support necessary to provide you with a healthy income.

We also seek hundreds of people keen to earn extra cash as Agents for Concessionaires. Drive, determination and nominal investment in stock required.

DSR RUBBERED LIMITED — Please write or telephone Concessionaire Division (Dept S) DSR Leisure Ltd, 74-80 Victoria Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 7PH Telephone 0252 514912

DRIED FLOWERS & FRAGRANCED GIFTS.

Retail business with tremendous scope for development. Could be franchised. Located SW of London. T/O £200,000. G.P. £68%. Price £100,000 includes valuable leases, stock etc.

Reply to BOX J76.

CONSIDERING FRANCHISING YOUR BUSINESS?

For advice and information contact Franchise Development Services Limited, Castle House, Norwich NR2 1PJ Tel: (0603) 620301.

GENERAL

NOTICE TO READERS

Whilst we take reasonable precautions with all advertisements, readers are strongly advised to take professional advice before paying a deposit or entering into any commitments.

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

BOX NO. -
BOX NO. DEPT.,
P.O.BOX 484
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING
LONDON E1 9DD

TASK COMMUNICATIONS

CONTINUE TO OFFER THE BEST PRICES AND AFTER SALES SERVICE ON A FULL RANGE OF CELLULAR PHONES AND MOBILE FACSIMILE.

Ex: Mobira Talkpartable phones from just £249 + VAT with the lowest airtime costs available

Before you make your choice CALL US FOR A FREE INFORMATION PACK. Tel: 0268 712710 (24 hrs) Fax: 0268 710074 AUTHORISED DEALER

ENVELOPES 8,820 stock for sale. All yellow, 12" by 6". 136 QSM. Pallened ready for collection. Best offers to Slade, on 01-390 6388.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

EAST ANGLIA

Long established manufacturer of branded non-durable consumer leisure products.

* £8 million turnover
* significant net assets
* 360 employees
* products sold through leading national chain stores

Merger sought with compatible private or listed company.

Replies in strict confidence to: Mr. G.B.Paton, Close Brothers Limited, 36 Great St Helen's London EC3A 6AP

SCOTLAND KNOYDART

Unique opportunity to purchase public house (Freehouse) with cottage in the "Last Wilderness" in Europe. Outstanding scenic location with good potential. Offers in region of £110,000 plus S.A.V.

Details from 0687 2257 or 0904 85309.

BUSINESSES AND ASSETS

of solvent and insolvent companies for sale.

Business and Assets. Tel: 01-935 1164 01-637 3036

92 Bed Nursing Home, Yorkshire Coast, £660,000. An excellent business opportunity, priced for a quick sale. Ring Chris Gledhill on 061 709 2811 for full details. Finance available.

HEALTH CLUBS Over 70 for sale. Free list S.A.E. to Dept. 253 High St, Uxbridge, Middx.

RETAIL UNIT Opposite Asda hypermarket see General

NEW YEAR BARGAINS

CELLULAR PHONES FROM £175

APPROVED FAX MACHINES FROM £695

CHEAPEST AIR TIME AND CALL COSTS?

SMALLEST HAND PORTABLE IN THE WORLD £995

All prices exclude VAT, installation and Network charges

TALKING POINT TELEPHONES

0727 40007 0727 40007 0727 40007

UNIT 2, 222 LONDON ROAD, ST ALBANS, HERTS

LINES OPEN UNTIL 8PM THIS EVENING

HERBAL COSMETICS FRANCHISE BUSINESS FOR SALE AS A GOING CONCERN IN THE GUILDFORD AREA.

GENUINE REASON FOR SALE OF THIS SUPERB BUSINESS.

CALL 01 977 1809 EVES

FULHAM - Luxury office and suites.

To Let

Reduce your overheads in our Business Centres.

NO Legal fees,
NO Premium,
FREE Board Room.
01-736 8060.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Unique opportunity to invest in luxury leisure complex

Minimum Investment £50,000 in staged payments

- freehold security

078481 - 3188

UNIQUE

Manufacturer of specialised sportswear in pleasant rural surroundings in Derbyshire. Genuine reason for selling. Price approx £40,000. Premises on lease 12,000 sq ft. Excellent potential.

Reply to BOX A42.

FINANCIAL Services Co seeks low interest commercial lending sources on behalf of existing client bank. Foreign currency mortgages considered, all loans well secured on U.K. property. Ring Guru Giranii on 061 709 2811 for full details

It's surprising what you can find in – *just desks*

Period and reproduction furniture for office, boardroom and study

JUST DESKS OFFICE INTERIORS

Dept TIM
20 Church Street, London NW8 8EP tel 01-723 7976

6 Erskine Road, London NW3 3AJ tel 01-722 4902

DIMMOCKS

hotel, restaurant, pub furniture

We are seeking Agents with experience in serving the Contract Furnishing/Licensed Leisure Markets, to benefit from the success of our popular quality ranges, Chairs, Stools, Seating, Tables, Bedrooms. Various areas available.

Other non-competing houses may be accepted.

The Dimmock Furniture Co. Ltd., Ideal Works, Hayes Lane, Lye, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY9 8RB.

WINE MERCHANTS FOR SALE -

Rare chance to buy a highly profitable Wine Shop situated in fashionable S.W. London. The shop is fitted to the highest standard with a turnover of £5,000 pw and a gross profit of 23%.

PRICE OF £225,000 FREEHOLD

Includes office, storage etc, and there is also the option to buy the spacious 3 bed flat above the shop for a further £110,000

For further details, please contact BOX J24

WANTED.

HOTEL OR SHOP GROUP WHICH WANTS A CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF QUALITY *SALMON* DIRECT FROM A SMALL FISH FARM IN THE SCOTTISH WEST HIGHLANDS.

REPLY TO BOX G31

Working Partner Required.

Investment required. Motivated MD required to run & expand new UK subsidiary of PLC Co. Partner would be expected to manage staff, controlling stock motivating sales & generally running this exciting new UK division giving excellence in earnings & business selection.

Call Mr Thomas 01-673 0103 or 823 8903.

START YOUR OWN IMPORT/EXPORT AGENCY

Can be operated from home. Part-time or full-time. No capital or experience required. Send for your FREE 24-page Booklet.

Import/Export Co. PO Box 334, London W5 Or tel: 01 997 4471 (24 hrs)

GLOUCESTER Company importing ceramic & marble requires a Director/ administrator with some capital to sort out present problems, good order book & prospects. Reply BOX G26

IF you can excite us about your idea, we can turn it into money. Tel: (0222) 383046.

FAX PRICES SMASHED AT LAST!

Major importers offers direct - portable fax machine with all usual facilities. Group 3. On sale in shops now at £995 upwards. Our price - £595 plus VAT.

Leave name and address for free fact pack

061-794 4298 office
0706-50219 anytime Eve/weekends

HOVE. SUSSEX.

NEW REST HOME (PERMISSION 20 PERSONS) LEVEL POSITION NEAR SEA AND SHOPS

Converted to high standard in compliance with current regs: Lift. Full gas c.h. Fit carpets. New tiled roof Ready for business and with excellent potential. O.I.R.O. £650,000 FREEHOLD

Apply
St. John Vaughan, 72d Church Road, Hove, Sussex. TEL: (0273) 721041

MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALERS OF WOODEN MOBILES AND WIND CHIMES

London NW5 - easily relocated.
Projected turnover for year ending May 89, £155,000 with 45% gross profit. Price £80,000.
For Further details contact: Lakey & Co 044282 8398 / 2403

OPEN A COMPUTER TRAINING CENTRE FRANCHISE

A unique opportunity to enter this rapidly growing business. We supply you with a fully proven audio visual training system for training on IBM PCs or compatibles. No previous teaching experience required. Already used in over 100 training centres. Investment approximately £10,000

RT COMPUTER TRAINING 15 Victoria Street, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS22 4RE. Tel: 0937-63052/63940

BETACOM FAX SALE £795

FREE 1 year guarantee
FREE 2 week holiday
FREE delivery
PHONE KJC NOW
(0705) 553311 / 552844

COMMISSION OPPORTUNITY

Introduce us to your friends, social and business contacts and earn commission up to £2,500 per sale. Our product - Freehold luxury villa plots worldwide. Telephone or write for details

Anglo European Land PLC, 28 Nottingham Place London W1M 3SD. Tel: 01-224 2086.

Investment Opportunity and/or Sales Directorship

in startup mail order and retail BES Company selling to Green Consumer Market - BES Minimum Subscription exceeded and Offer extended to 31/1/89.

For Prospectus, phone Meardon PLC on 01 - 902 8998

This advertisement is not an invitation to subscribe for shares.

READY FOR THE 90's?

This is the opportunity for immediate & long term income in new booming industry. Tried and tested products offer unlimited profit and market growth to experienced & motivated sales executive.

Call us (0990) 42168.

ENQUIRIES

are invited from glass companies with a capacity to supply 400-500 double glazed sealed units per week, in return for shares and capital to compliment our new PVC windows and conservatories business in South Wales. For further information please tel. (0685) 813133 (office hrs).

RETAIL UNIT Opposite Asda hypermarket see General

TOP Regents Park NW1 Mailing Address services available Fax 01 388 8626 01 388 9767.

01-481 4000
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS

CAR BUYERS GUIDE

01-481 4422
TRADE ADVERTISERS

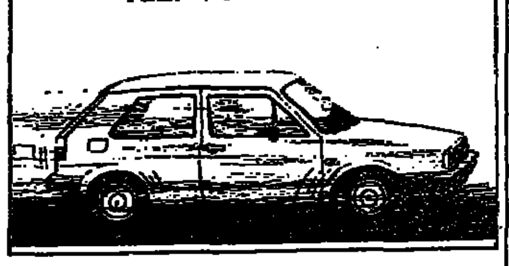
GENERAL

NEW CARS
AT DISCOUNT PRICES

ALL MAKES
IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
NATIONWIDE SERVICE
LEASING AND H.P. AT LOW RATES
PART EXCHANGE WELCOME

No matter what make of vehicle you require, we can save you money and supply it virtually from stock. All cars delivered from U.K. dealers.

AUTOFLEET OF LONDON LTD
TEL: 01 941 5288



LOVESAY FLEET SALES
NEW CAR SPECIALISTS
Most makes supplied with tremendous savings. Tax free cars supplied RHD or LHD. Shipping worldwide.
Selected Samples:
MITSUBISHI SHOGUN LWB TURBO DIESEL D/PACK — £17,783
PORSCHE 944S2 — £POA
BMW 535i — £POA
MERCEDES — £POA
SAAB CDS AUTO, Air Con — £17,195
VOLVO 480 ES — £11,800
VOLVO 240 DL MAN ESTATE — £10,800
VOLVO 740 GLE ESTATE — £15,232
VOLVO 740 MAN ESTATE — £12,298
RENAULT SAVANNAH — £10,287
RENAULT ESPACE GTS, Early Delivery — £17,980
RENAULT 25 GTS — £10,785
RENAULT 5 GT TURBO — £8,413
CITROEN BX19 RD SALOON — £8,318
CITROEN BX19 GTi — £10,338
AUDI 80 — £9,880
VW GOLF GTi 16V — £11,600
PEUGEOT 205 GTi 1.6 — £8,487
PEUGEOT 405 1.6 — £7,984
NISSAN BLUEBIRD GS 5-DR — £8,998
TOYOTA MR2 — £11,590
TOYOTA CELICA GT — £15,288
TOYOTA COROLLA 5-DR — £7,380
Open Weekdays 9.15am-6pm
Saturday & Sunday 10-2
The Auto Centre, Station Road, Kelvedon, Essex.
Tel: 0376 71133/71425
Telex: 98641 Lovesay G.
Fax: 0376 71941

Lex Brooklands
VOLVO
VOLVO SALOONS
F 1988 VOLVO 760 TURBO PETROL AUTO. Silver, leather, stereo, air con, ABS, ESR, wide alloys, rear spoiler, 9,000 mls. FSH. — £19,995.
F 1988 VOLVO 740 TURBO PETROL AUTO. White, leather/plush int., air con, stereo, sunroof, alloys, 8,000 mls. FSH. — £16,250.
E 1988 VOLVO 760 GLE AUTO. Deep Blue met, plush int., stereo, air con, ABS, ESR, alloys, 8,900 mls. FSH. — £16,495.
E 1988 VOLVO 740 TURBO DIESEL AUTO. Red, steel sunroof, 13,000 mls. FSH. — £13,995.
01-671 5111
47 STREATHAM HILL
LONDON SW2

FORD SIERRA SAPPHIRE COSWORTH
Diamond white, '88 F registration, 5,000 miles, £18,495.
Tel: (0342) 315722. T

HONDA
1988 F (November) Prelude, EXi Auto, 4WS, Marshall silver metallic, rear spoiler, 2,000 miles only. £14,995.
Honda Care 3 year warranty.
Horton Way Motors
0462 678191

Lex Brooklands
VOLVO
1988 (F) TOYOTA CAMRY 2.0 GL INJECTION EXECUTIVE SALOON. Gunmetal, blue velour trim. Auto as standard. 2,700 miles. — £12,500.
19
760 GLE AUTO SALOON. Met Blue. 3,000 miles. — £18,995.
1988 (F123 CKW) VOLVO 745 TURBO INTERCOOLER ESTATE. Manual. Gun metal. Incl phone if required. 5,700 miles. — £17,895.
Tel: 0742 753151

1988 F Peugeot 205 Rally 1.3 White with black interior. Sports seats. Wheels and low profile tyres. 100 miles only. LHD. £6,995. Hamble Motors 0703 453767.

ESCORT GHIA 1.6 1985 'B' reg. 5 door, 5 speed, 2 lady owners. Immaculate condition, full Ghia certification. Nimbus grey metallic. MOT Nov '89. Tax, only 25,000 miles. £4,350. Tel:01-998 1688 (after 5.00pm)

FOR NEW & USED
Alfa Romeo
PLEASE CONTACT
RMG
YOUR MAIN DEALER
ROMFORD MARKET GARAGE LTD
MARKET LINK, ROMFORD
ROMFORD 27878 & 41339

JOHN WOOLFE CHEVROLET LTD
Wish to announce they are now prepared to take orders for all of the 1989 Range of General Motors Corporation vehicles. Presently available for demonstration are the 1989 Cadillac Seville and Eldorado. Become one of the first to experience the future of motoring in the UK.
All Enquiries Tel:
Baldock Herts 0462 896294.

Brand New 1989
LINCOLN TOWN CAR
* All extras
* Limited parts guarantee
* Parts and servicing arranged
* All paperwork taken care of
* To your door at £29,500 ono
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
NESS INDUSTRIES (01) 886 1072 AND ASK FOR WENDY.

TOYOTA
SENSATIONAL SUPER TURBO DEMONSTRATIONS AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE.
C.Hire from £129 pw.
Tel: Steve Millington on 0706 68531.
Radcliffe Road Garage (Heywood)
UK'S Largest Toyota Dealer Group.

VOLVO 760 Turbo.
May 1986 (C), silver, black leather, air con, ew, ESR, ABS, Pioneer stereo, FSH. Only 12,000 miles. 6 months warranty unexpired. £13,950 ono.
Tel: 01-386 9411 (days)
01-876 2912 (eves).

PEUGOT 205 CJ CABRIOLET
F reg, immaculate Sporty white model, limited edition, £8,500 ono.
Tel: (0823) 252055 (O); or 413074 (eves).

ROVER 820SE
6 months old. 3,000 miles. £10,100.
Tel: 0376 71133/71425.
LOVESAY FLEET SALES.

EX MANAGEMENT Ford cars. Late, low mileage. For details Tel: 0530 810334.T

FIAT PANDA C. 86. red. 16,000 miles. £2,300 ono. Tel: 01-924 2429.

FIESTA XR2. 88. met grey. 900 miles. alloys. sunroof. etc. mint. £7,195. Tel 01-204 1703.T.

FORD XR3i Cabriolet - Special model. Feb '88. stereo radio. colour coded, alloy wheels etc. low mileage. £10,450. Tel (0989) 63886.

GRANADA Scorpios. Choice of colours, low mileage. For details. Tel: 0530 810334.T

HONDA For the largest selection of new and used Honda's in the U.K. Contact Eddie Grimstead Motor Co. The official City and Docklands Honda dealer on 01-882-3131

HONDA ACCORD 2.0EXI Auto D Reg. Montreal blue. £9,950. 01 669 9328 Mon-Sat T

PEUGEOT 405 GTXI. 88. met blue. 7,000m. etc. immac. £9,995. Tel 01-204 1703.T

RENAULT Espace TXE. F reg. 1/1/1989, mercury silver, seven seats, under 1,000 miles. £15,995. Tel (021) 3501826 or (0836) 626862.T.

RENAULT R25 V6i Automatic. met blue. 1988 F. 3,000mls only, good saving off new price. £14,995. (0782)622141 T

ROVER 827 Vitesse Fastback 827 and 820 Fastbacks. Sterlings. 827/820/213 & 216 Saloons. Most models. 01-427 4994. T

ROVER STERLING 1986 (D). Chauffeur driven company car. One owner. 15,000 miles only. Dark grey metallic paintwork with matching grey leather interior. In excellent condition. FSH. £10,800 ono. Tel. Mr White on 01-485 8994 (days), 519 4230 (eves & weekends).

VAUXHALL SENATOR CD. 1988 F. 5,000mls. Monaco Blue, alarm, as new, demonstrator. full GM dealer facilities. £16,995. Tel. 01-882 0388. T.

VOLVO 760 GLE saloon, auto, January 88. two owners. 13,000 miles. FSH. ABS. a/c. silver/black leather. stereo. £16,800. Finance available. PX welcome. Tel SG Smith (Motors) Ltd. Tel 01-693 0202.

VOLVO 740 GL manual estate. 86 (D). fullest possible spec. £10,495. (0923) 55116. Caldon Of Watford. Volvo dealer.

VOLVO 760 GLE turbo est.'86'. grey met. 36,000m. etc. immac. £11,995. 01-204 1703.T.

VOLVO 760 Turbo petrol auto estate. 87 model (D), unrepeatable value at £12,495. Tel (0923) 55116. Caldon Of Watford Volvo Main dealer.

VOLVO 760 GLE auto estate. 87 (D). magnificent example at £13,995. (0923) 55116. Caldon Of Watford. Volvo dealer.

VOLVO - 740 GLE Saloon, C registration 1986. Metallic blue. 41,000 miles, electric windows, electrically heated seats, electrically heated mirrors, central locking, sunroof, radio-cassette, excellent condition. £7950. Tel: (0923) 778113 (evenings).

VOLVO 760 Turbo Estate Auto. 1988. gold. black leather. 17,000m. 3rd seat. Phone. £18,499. 10 other Estates available. 01 586 0660. 01 505 8796 Home T.

MOTORS WANTED

HONDA The best prices paid for all Honda models. Please phone Steve Goldsmith. Eddy Grimstead Motor Company, official City and Dockland Honda Dealer, on 01-882 3131.

SAAB AUTHORISED DEALERS

SAAB

MIDLANDS
Ecclesfield Garage Ltd, Ecclesfield Road, Erdington, Birmingham. Tel: (021) 351 1927.
88 (E) CDE, Silver, full spec incl music £22,995
88 (E) 9000T, White, air/cond, alloys £19,995
88 (E) 9000T, Silver, air cond, FSH £11,995
86 (C) 9000T, Cochinelly, FSH, 1 own... £12,995
87 (D) 9000i, Cochineal, 'S' pk, alloys £11,995
87 (D) 9000i, Odoardo, 'S' pk, ABS FSH £10,995
88 (E) 900T, 3 dr Blackwithe, s/r radio £14,450
88 mod 900T, 3 dr Silver, s/r alloys, FSH £7,995
86 (C) 900T, 3 dr, Silver, alloys, r/c £8,995
86 (B) 900T16, Silver/Burgundy s/r £3,995
87 (D) 900i, 4 door, Rose, 'S' pack £7,795
88 (E) 900i, 5 door Embassy, 'S' pack £11,995
88 (E) 900i, 4 door, Silver, auto, s/r £9,995
85 (C) 90, Platinum Blue £4,795
87 mod 900, 2 door Cirrus White £6,995

MIDLANDS
Thos. B. Williams, Ashby Parva, Lutterworth, Leicestershire.
Tel: (0455) 209191
88 (F) 9000 SE, ultimate specification, finished in Odoardo Grey Metallic £30,000
88 (E) CDE, Demonstrators ABS ACC, choice of colours audio incl CD player POA
86 (D) 9000 T16, Met Silverline ACC £15,850
88 (E) 9000i, auto Silv. 'S' pk Demo £18,500
88 (E) 9000i, mini 'S' pk Quartz Demo £16,000
85 (C) 9000 T16, Red leather, ACC £12,500
87 (D) 9000i Odoardo a/c ABS £11,250
87 (D) 900T, 2 door, Silver, sunroof £10,000
87 (D) 9000i, finished in Cherry Red £10,000

WEST YORKSHIRE
Broadwood Motors, Broadwood Green, Nr Luton Airport. Tel: (0438) 832166
88 (F) 900T16'S', 2 dr, Silver s/r £15,495
88 (F) 900T, 5 dr Magenta, s/r, r/c £14,995
88 (F) 900i, 3 dr Odoardo, r/c, alarm £11,595
88 (F) 900i, 3 dr Platinum Blue r/c, s/r £11,395
85 (B) 900T, 3 dr, Blue, auto, PAS s/r r/c £7,495
83 (A) 900T, 5 dr Blue, s/r, elec. fitted £5,995
88 (F) 9000 SE, Silv ACC, auto £22,595
88 (F) 9000 SE, Odoardo ACC, auto £22,195
88 (F) 9000T, auto Rose Quartz s/r r/c £20,495
87 (E) 9000 SE auto Rose Quartz r/c £18,995
88 (F) CDS, Malachite r/c, 2,800 miles £17,495
88 (C) 900T, Silver, r/c, 1 own, FSH £11,295
88 (D) 9000i, 'S' pk, Blue, s/r, alloys £9,375
88 (D) 9000i, Silver a/c, r/m, 1 own £8,995

CROYDON
Ancaster Saab, 433-441 Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey. Tel: (01) 668 8411. Fax No: (01) 763 1153
(F) 9000 Turbo Carlsson, full spec FSH POA
(E) CDE, auto, alarm, stereo FSH £22,495
(E) 9000 Turbo, Platinum, alloys FSH £17,995
(F) CDi, spec equip, alarm stereo FSH £17,695
(E) 9000i, Black, opt pk, alloys, FSH £12,995
(F) 900 S16V, 3 dr, lux pack, alarm FSH £14,995
(F) 900T16 SE, Tecnic wheels, bdy kit £27,995
(E) 9000i, Silver, 'S' pk, 22,000 mls, FSH £10,995
(D) 9000i, Red, a/c, 18,000 mls FSH £10,995
(C) 900T16, 1 owner FSH £9,995
(C) 900T, Black, 2 door, leather 'T' pk £8,695
(B) 900T, 3 door Silver, 'T' pack FSH £7,495
(A) 900T, 5 dr, auto Blue, 52,000 mls £5,995
(E) 900i, 5 door, Silver, 'S' pack, FSH £11,995

LONDON
Swedish Car Centre, 128 Boston Road, London W7. Tel: (01) 567 7035/8521
19 The Mall, Ealing Broadway W5.
Tel: (01) 579 2950
9AM - 6PM Mon - Sat - Sales - Service - Parts
88 (E) 900 Turbo 16S, 3 door, 5 speed White, 19,000 miles £14,950
88 (E) 900i, 5 door, 5 speed, finished in White ex-demonstrator, radio/cassette £11,450
88 (E) 900, 2 door, 5 speed, Cherry, Blaupunkt radio/cassette, 4,000 miles £9,450
88 (E) 900, 2 door, 5 speed finished in White, 14,000 miles FSH £8,450
87 (D) 900 Turbo 16S, 3 door, 5 speed, Odoardo Grey/leather £12,450
87 (D) 900i, 5 door automatic, Silver, 'S' pack, 1 owner, 9,000 miles £10,950
87 (D) 900i, 5 door, automatic, Odoardo Grey 'S' pack, alloys £10,450
86 (D) 900i, 4 door, 5 speed, White, 'S' pack, 26,000 miles 1 owner £8,450
86 (C) 900 Turbo 16S, 3 door, 5 speed Silver, 31,000 miles, 1 owner £9,950
86 (C) 900i, 5 door automatic, Rose Quartz, 1 owner, 39,000 miles, FSH £8,950
85 (C) 900i, 3 door, 5 speed, 'S' pack, selection from £8,950
84 (B) 900 Turbo, 3 door, 5 speed, Metallic Red, sunroof £5,950
84 (A) 900 GLE, 4 door, automatic, Platinum, 2 owners, FSH £4,450
87 (D) 9000i, Bronze, electric windows + mirrors, 26,000 miles, FSH £10,450
86 (C) 9000i, finished in White, 'S' pk, 1 owner 27,000 miles, FSH £8,950

LONDON
Saab Piccadilly,
77 Piccadilly, London W1. Tel: (01) 409 0090
USED CAR WEEK 16 - 21 JANUARY
Choose from a selection of:-
15 — 900i's
8 — 900 Turbo's
9 — 9000i's
6 — 9000 Turbo's
2 — CD series
3 — Left hand drives
EXPORT SALES ENQUIRIES WELCOME

LONDON
Saab City,
58 The Highway, London E1. Tel: (01) 488 7540
88 (F) CDE, auto, Odoardo Met. leather POA
88 (E) 9000i, 5 door, Embassy Blue, manual, 'S' pack, ACC, ABS, radio/cassette £15,750
88 (C) 9000 T16, manual, gls/r, Platinum Blue ACC, radio/cassette £13,975
88 (E) 9000i, manl, 5 dr 'S' pk, Grey £15,350
88 (E) 9000i, manl, Odoardo, r/c, 400 ml £14,250
87 (D) 900 T16, convertible, Grey, r/c £20,750
88 (E) 900 T16 'S', 2 door, Odoardo, r/c £14,450
88 (E) 900i, 3 dr, 5 spd, 'S' pk, Slvr spir, £11,895
88 (E) 900i, 5 dr, 5 spd, Odoardo Met, r/c £11,500
87 (E) 900i, 5 dr, manl, 'S' pk, Magenta, £11,500
86 (E) 900i, 2 dr, manual, Silver, alloys £9,750
86 (E) 900, 3 dr, manl, Cirrus White, r/c £8,750

LONDON
Ace Kensington, Radley Mews, London W8.
W8 Tel: (01) 938 4233 W3 Tel: (01) 992 7886
88 (E) CDE — £22,995
88 (E) 9000 SE, White, 2,000 miles — £20,995
88 (E) 900T, 5 dr, auto, Odoardo, r/c — £15,250
88 (E) 900T, 5 dr, 5 spd, Malachite, r/c £14,995
88 (E) 9000i, A'S', Silver, r/c 12,000 ml £14,750
87 (D) 900T16 'S' Slvr, r/s/w, 12,000 ml £13,750
88 (E) 9000i, 'S', White, r/s/p, alarm — £11,995
87 (E) 900i, 3 dr, 5 spd, Red, 'S' 4,000 ml £10,995
88 (E) 900i, 5 door, 5 speed, Rose, radio/cassette, 18,000 miles — £9,995
87 (D) 900, 5 dr, 5 spd, Blue, as new — £7,995
85 mod 900 T16, 4 dr, Black, 47,000 mls £8,750
84 (B) 900 GLS, 5 door, 5 speed, finished in Red, 25,000 miles — £5,750

LONDON
Saab Wimbledon, 14 Morden Road, SW19 3BJ
Tel: (Showroom) 01-540 5649
88 (F) 900, convertible, White, 1,350 ml £22,995
88 (D) 9000 Turbo SE, automatic, finished in Silver, full specification, 31,000 miles £16,950
88 (E) 9000i, 'S' pack, finished in Silver, 'S' pack, radio/cassette, 11,500 miles — £15,975
86 (D) 900 Turbo 8V, 5 dr, finished in Odoardo, sunroof, radio/cassette 19,500 miles £12,495
86 (D) 900 Turbo 16'S', 3 door, finished in Black leather, sunroof, 31,000 miles — £12,395
87 (D) 9000i, 5 door, manual, finished in White, sunroof, radio/cassette, 13,400 miles £11,975
88 (E) 900i, 5 door, manual, finished in Red, radio/cassette, alarm, 9,000 miles — £11,485
88 (E) 900i, 5 door, automatic, finished in Red, radio/cassette, 7,500 miles — £11,495

SURREY
Bell & Colvill, Epsom Road, West Horsley.
Tel: (04865) 4671
88 (F) CD, auto, very low mileage, electric glass sunroof, finished in Silver, ABS £22,750
88 (E) 9000T, 5 spd, ABS, ACC, s/r — £19,995
88 (E) 900 Turbo 8V, 3 door manual, electric sunroof, radio/cassette, Silver — £14,995
'900 Turbo 8V, 5 dr, s/r, r/c, Silver — £14,995
88 (F) 900 T8V, 3 dr, manl, 'T' pk, Bronze £13,995
87 (E) 900i, 5 speed, r/c, Silver — £12,495
86 (C) 900i, 5 dr, auto, r/c, Rose Quartz £8,995
86 (C) 900i, 3 dr auto, 'S' pk, Slvr, alloys £8,995
87 (D) 900i, 5 dr, manl, s/r, r/c, Silver — £8,495
84 (B) 900 T8V, auto, 3 door, finished in Silver Metallic, many extras, low mileage — £7,495
900 Cabriolet available for demonstration.

KENT
Star Group Saab,
132 Parkview Road, Welling.
Tel: (01) 303 5678
88 (F) 9000 SE, auto, Blue, 1,407 ml — £22,995
87 (E) 9000T, Blue Metallic, electric sunroof, 21,000 miles, radio/cassette, 1 owner £18,995
88 (F) 900T8, 3dr, Bronze, r/c, 4,700ml £15,495
86 (C) 9000T, r/c, Plat Blue, 25,000 ml, £12,995
88 (E) 900i, 3 dr, Blue Met, r/c, 8,500 ml £11,295
86 (C) 900T, 'T' pack, full body kit, finished in Silver Metallic/leather, r/c — £8,450
85 (C) 900T, 3 dr, Blue, r/c, 5 spd, alarm £7,995
Please phone with your specific requirements and for cars not listed.
OPEN 8.30AM – 6PM Monday-Saturday

YOU CAN BE SURE THAT THESE DEALERS ARE AS RELIABLE AS THEIR CARS

Before we sell an Approved Used Saab, we carry out a stringent 40 Point Check and Service.
There is also a thorough hand-over procedure, a free 600 miles inspection and a full 12 months Safeguard Mechanical Insurance included.
So for peace of mind, only buy your used Saab from an Approved Used Saab dealer.

SAAB APPROVED USED CARS

FORD

GODFREY DAVIS FOR FORD



Take a look at our huge new-car stock...full range including new models.



Part exchange welcome. Full financial facilities available.
(Licenced credit brokers.)

OPENING HOURS: MON – FRI 9AM – 7PM, SAT 9AM – 6PM

BUSINESS USER ENQUIRIES WELCOME

We're easy to deal with!

Godfrey Davis
FORD MAIN DEALERS

EALING ROAD
ALPERTON
MIDDLESEX
HA0 1HG
01-997 3388

The Famous name for Ford

Godfrey Davis
FORD MAIN DEALERS
RALLYE SPORT DEALER
NEW RS COSWORTH ON SHOW
AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
Hertfordshires leading RS DEALER
Godfrey Davis
Contact Adrian Thomas
(043871) 6123
Godfrey Davis (Welwyn) Ltd.
By Pass Road, Welwyn AL6 9HP

MAIN DEALERS
"Our interest is your New Ford. Call Today for details of our low rate finance packages."
The motorists' Friend
Horncastle
BATH ROAD READING TEL 412021

SPECIAL FORD AUCTION
First Wednesday of every month. All cars are E and F reg and carry manufacturer's warranty. Over 750 cars available for Sale Now!
SOUTH WALES MOTOR AUCTIONS BRIDGEND.
Tel: (0656) 62000 or 68878
FAX 0656 768357.

XR3i
C reg, white, original shape, 11,000 miles, better than new condition. £1,600 spent on engine in September. Rolling road test shows 25% increase in BHP and flat torque, fully modified for lead free petrol. £5,000.
Tel: J WAGER
01-388 2456 (days)
01-590 5871 (after 7.30pm)

BAKER
RS
ALL MODELS IN STOCK
Merthyr Tydfil
Tel: (0685) 74111
Aberdare
Tel: (0685) 873558

'89 GRANADAS
new, unregistered
For best prices
Tel: (0892) 652175
DBS for Ford

Sierra Estate 2000GL
1985 B Reg Manual. One lady owner. Immaculate condition. Many extras including electric sunroof, electric mirrors, self locking boot. Blaupunkt stereo cassette, electric aerial, automatic speaker control. 39,000 miles. 5 months tax. £3,950
Tel: (0737) 376816 anytime.

SIERRA XR 4x4 1988. 22,000 miles. good condition. £11,000 ono. Tel: (036126) 2343

CAUSEWAY GARAGE (Chippenham) Ltd
FOR SAAB IN WILTSHIRE
SAAB
CAUSEWAY GARAGE
LONDON ROAD
CHIPPENHAM,
WILTSHIRE
TEL: (0249) 655871
Also large selection of low mileage, one owner, used Saabs

SAAB

SAAB CONVERTIBLE
87 D, finished in grey metallic with burgandy leather interior, radio cassette player.
£15,500.
Tel (0635) 36216 (Weekends) or (0635) 40168 (Weekdays).T.

SAAB

F 1988 9000 CD manual. silver, many extras, 3,000 miles. — £22,995.
F 1988 900 turbo 16 S. silver. 7 inch alloys. many extras. 3,000 miles. — £17,995.
D 1987 9000 turbo 16. malachite. ACC. leather. 24,000 miles. — £14,995.
D 1988 900 turbo 5 door auto. — £9,975.
C 1986 900 auto 5 door, met blue, sunroof, 37,000 miles. — £8,995.
Many more in stock.
Tel. (0704) 74114.
CHELEYS OF AINSDALE
609 LIVERPOOL ROAD, AINSDALE, SOUTHPORT. PR8 3NG
Tel Southport (0704) 74114/5/6.
Demonstration car available.

900i Nov 1987 E. Navy Blue. 14,000 miles. alarm. FSH (Saab). £8,250 ono. for fast private sale. Tel 01-998 2493 (H) or 0896 72222 (O).

TURBO 16. 1985 'C' reg. white with black leather interior. 68,000 miles. MOT September 1989. air conditioning. onboard computer. Excellent condition. £9,600. Tel: (0734) 794875 x213 (bus hrs)

87 D 9000i - 29,000mls. executive spec. Colorado leather. S pack. ACC. Ster. RAD/CAS. Alarm. caravan hk. superb cond. 1 Owner. FSH. £10,950. Tel: (0780) 720130.

9000i 16 valve turbo. 1986. metallic red. FSH. very original. good value. £11,995. Tel: (0782)622141 T

9000i 86 PAS E/W. Stereo. 11,000 miles. FSH. Opportunity. £8,950. 01 486 0762 T.

900i - 3 door. May 88. white. 9,000 mls. Saab warranty. £9,500. Ply (0752) 663 511.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

COUNTY DISTRIBUTORS WANTED IN ALL THE COUNTIES IN THE BRITISH ISLES TO DISTRIBUTE THE UNIQUE AND FASTEST MOVING AMERICAN DOG AND CAT FOOD.
Stock space and a car essential. You can never make money in a quicker way than dealing with the Americans!
For more details write with your Market plans to the:
Marketing Manager, Trademoore International Ltd, 2 Vincent Parade, Henley Rd, London. N4
Fax: 01 272 2145

FRENCH RIVERIA.
Well known restuarant for sale. 2,600,000 frs incl. all taxes and fees. Estab. 12 yrs, *superb location beside water.* Rent 100,000 frs p.a., turnover 3,750,000 frs T.T.C. 8 mths season.
Assistance during 1st season & possiblity to rent 4 bedroomed fisherman's hse.
Details. The Salad Table, BP20, 83360 Port Grimaud

WHOLESALERS

This is your chance to make real cash in 1989
Start off your year buying the best for less, we have electrical returns or slight rejects with 12 mths guarantees, also flat pack furniture, hard wear and clothes plus flat pack mix lots.
ie. wardrobes £8.00 each R.R.P. £89.99.
Min purchase 1,500 also mixed loads £24,500
C.S.P. only £3,062.50. plus many, many more.
Tel: 0742 726439 for further information.

FLAT Pack furniture to clear from a leading retail outlet including wardrobes, chests, kitchen bases, double robes etc. Job lots £1,500. 0742 726439.

FULLY Refurbished fridge freezers for disposal in large or small quantities. Fully cleaned and bagged, and ready for immediate resale. All guaranteed. Telephone (0742) 726439.

SPAIN.
Due to re-organisation, well established Company, Costa-del-Sol area have 3 lucrative vending rounds, high cash returns, full service back up.
£19,500, £29,500, £49,500.
Tel 061 427 7092 anytime

FOR SALE AS A GOING CONCERN
Freehold garage premises comprising: petrol forecourt, workshop, separate MOT building and modern car showroom. Situated on the edge of the popular tourist village of Haworth. The site has great potential for some one with imagination and money. Price £230,000 plus SAV.
Tel: (0535) 610074.

MANUFACTURER OF MARINE HOODS AND COVERS SOUTH COAST LOCATION
Turnover currently running at £150k per annum.
Profits to exceed £40k per annum.
Price for goodwill, fixtures, fittings and equipment £130k + S.A.V.
For further details please contact:
BOX A41.

U.K. MANUFACTURER OF REMOTE CONTROL GARAGE DOOR OPENER, SEEKS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES & INSTALLERS IN ALL AREAS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.
REPLY TO BOX J60.

BUSINESS SERVICES

WANTED
Too much office space?
Perhaps you can help small professional firm with multinational interests seeking 500-700 sq.ft. in SW1, WC2 or thereabouts (Nr. W'loo) on flexible licence or lease. Financially gilt-edged and quite nice to know.
01-499-6901

COMPANY Formations UK & Worldwide. Ready Made. Nominee service. Searches. Tax Consultancy. Business advice. Accountancy. Falcon Business Services. Victoria Hse. 25 Victoria St. Liverpool L1 6BD. Tel 051-236-3443 (24 hrs) Fax: 051-255-1050. TX:626179.

GLOUCESTER PLACE W1
Fully furnished/-serviced offices for immediate occupation. Boardroom, mail. fax, telephone answering. secretarial.
01-935 9841.

W2
Low premium 24hr access + parking. Furn carpeted offices incl phone/telex/fax. Fr £80pw.
01-839 4808

KNIGHTSBRIDGE, confidential address. telephone service. telex. fax. desk space & typing. Excellent support for your business. Basil Bureau 01-581 4393.

PRESTIGE W1 Cavendish Square address. Tel. Fax. Telex & forwarding service. 01-486-0828

SELF MADE Businessman offers help to those with problems with achieving success. No charge for first interview. Please supply balance sheet, profit & loss. Write to BOX H84.

DISTRIBUTORS & AGENTS

SALES AGENTS
REQUIRED FOR ALL TERRITORIES, INCLUDING LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES
WE HAVE TO OFFER SUCCESSFUL SALES PEOPLE NEW, EXCITING AND EXCLUSIVE GIFTWARE PRODUCTS ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH B.E.B
WITH THIS COMBINATION HIGH EARNINGS ASSURED.
BUSINESS ENTERPRISE BRITAIN
PHONE 062 982 3735 OFFICE HOURS
077 385 3527 EVE/W'ENDS.

BUSINESS GROUP IN SPAIN
Pepe Esquiva
- Charles Almando S.A.
- Jose Esquiva, S.L.
- Blue Stratos Compagny, S.L.
- Blue Lagoon, S.L.
PROMOTE AND CONSTRUCT
- 'El Presidente'
- 'Blue Lagoon'
- 'Pueblo Suizo'
We need sales agents.
Tel: (010 34 58) 522 1000
(010 34 58) 532 1004
Ask for: Roberto or Angeles

NOTICE TO READERS

Readers are advised to seek professional advice before entering into any form of agreement, or parting with any money. When replying to box numbers please do not enclose original documentation and mark the box number clearly on the top right hand corner of the envelope and return it to:

THE BOX NUMBER DEPARTMENT
P O BOX 484
VIRGINIA STREET
WAPPING
LONDON E1 9DD

B.M.W.

BMW 325i AUTO
Zinnober red, low mileage, 1986 C reg. PAS, ABS, E/sunroof, windows, mirrors, Alloys, stereo, spoiler etc.
£12,950.
Ian Allan Motors, Egham (0784) 36191.

1988 E BMW 820i lux. under 9,000 miles, warranted by one local owner, full green light display, FSH, usual refinements including factory fitted sunroof, alloy wheels with wide tyres and factory lowbar. Finished in zinnober red with dark grey trim. Absolutely unmarked inside and out. £12,995. Tel (0203) 633661. (Open today).T.

£25,995 BMW 735iA SE '87, one owner, low miles, full spec. (0737)814210/(0883)42683. T

316 May 1987 D. black. SR. FSH. stereo. alarm. 21,000 miles. £7,995. (0582) 765374

320i Auto. White. Manual sunroof. Blaupunkt stereo radio cassette. May 88 8000 miles. £12,990. Tel: 0702 214425.

318i 1986 D four door. ocean blue met, sunroof, alloys, Pioneer. FSH. 30,000 miles, totally superb. £8,995. Tel (0873) 78099 (24 HOURS).T.

318i - Lachs/anth. E reg. 4 door, FSH. 1 owner. s/roof. c/locking. tints. de-chromed. radio/cass. just serviced. as new. £9,995. (031) 229 3366.

320i four door. 1986. (D). red. 16,000 miles. service history. one owner. near mint condition. £13,250. Car Masters. New Milton. (0425) 621262.

325i D reg. low mileage, quality stereo, car alarm. Computer. TDX wheels and PAS. Full service history. A1 condition. £13,995 ono. (0344) 778387.

525 E auto 1988 Black. Under 20,000 miles. Stereo. s/roof, e/windows. Excellent condition £8,500 Tel: 01-923 1195 or 01-708 3116 eve. or w/e.

528i ASE 86 C. ABS. OBC. PAS. ESR. bronze. FSH. warranty. £11,495. (0293)549474.

735i ASE 1987. white. black leather. full spec. FSH. BMW warranty. 29,000 miles. £26,500. Tel: (0271) 862078.

1984 (A) BMW 323i.
Host of extras including sports seats, L.S.D., alloy wheels, tinted windows, sports suspension, 5 speed c/r gearbox, sunroof, etc. Henna red. *Managing directors car.* 1 owner from new. FSH. £6,950
Tel: (0822) 854029

728i SE Auto. 87 E. FSH. Royal Blue. natural hide. Phone. memory seat. Excellent condition. £28,600. Tel: 0703 338666 (office hours - Southampton).

750iL - 'F' reg. black with black leather. full spec. FSH. as new 7,000 miles. first offer £51,000 secures. Tel (0422) 46016.

BMW 325 i sport 1987 low mileage. Lachs silver. fully loaded. £15,775. Tel:01-478 4788 or 01-500 1090 x263.

BMW 325i - Auto. 4 door. 1986 (D). silver. electric roof. £11,995. Tel 01 870 8896.

BMW 728i
1983. Silver metallic. Immaculate £4,100
Tel: 0376 71133/71425.
LOVESAY FLEET SALES.

BMW M5 Motor sport. The ultimate 5. E reg. Beige with tan leather interior. Air cond. 1400 miles. Immaculate. £25,950 ovno. Tel: (04446) 46388 (days) or (0273) 832210 (eves and w/k).

BMW 325i Auto 4 door. C reg. ex cond, gold met. £11,400. Tel: 01-631 4236 (day). w/end or eves (0628)37234 or 01-603 4178. ask for Stephen.

BMW 525 e 1987 Immaculate condition. Low mileage. One private owner. FSH. All usual extras. £11,780 (0494) 726003

BMW 535i M series. high spec. 5 spd man. 1987. 1 owner. FSH. met dark blue. good value. £14,995. (0782)622141 T

BMW 520i 1988 NEW SHAPE
Atlantis blue, grey interior, 8,000 miles only. F.S.H. As new. Sunroof, 4 speaker stereo cassette, mudflaps, mats etc. Private sale save £2,000.
Offers over £16,250.
Tel (0379) 86212.

BMW 728i SE Auto 1985 B reg. one owner. in blue. FSH. low mileage. cruise control. air conditioning. electric sunroof and windows. ABS. £7,495 o.n.o Tel: 0909 569415.

BMW 318i B Reg. White. Absolutely immaculate. S roof. 4-doors. 5-speed. stereo / radio / cassette. One owner. 38,000 miles. Full MOT. Just serviced. £6,250. Tel: (0522) 791231.

M 535i C-Reg electric roof. 5 speed. sports seats. metallic polaris. 46,000 miles. £11,995. Tel. 01-994 4218.

M635 D reg 32K Immac metallic bronze A/c stereo. remote locking alarm. leather sports seats. alpina wheels Magnificent car Price includes 9 mnth warranty £27,000 ono 0342 713661

AUDI

SIDLOW
Audi 80S Tornado red, '88 E registration. — £10,495
Audi 90 2.2 E '88 F, ABS, air conditioning, host of extras. — £17,495
Audi 90 Quattro '88 F, Nile metallic, various extras, £18,995
Audi 100 Avant 2.2 E Auto '88 E, flamingo. — £14,495
Tel: (0342) 315722

Audi
Audi quattro 1986 C reg, white, full leather interior, service history. — £17,995.
Audi 80 Quattro, 1988, F reg, merachino red, ABS, delivery mileage, full factory warranty, special purchase. — £15,995.
Audi 80 2 litre, 1988, E reg, lago metallic, factory sunroof, low mileage. — £12,995.
Audi coupe GT 2.2 E, 88, F reg, sapphire, 600 miles only, factory warranty, special purchase. — £12,995.
Audi coupe GT 1.8, 88, F reg, tornado red, delivery mileage, factory warranty, special purchase. — £11,495.
Audi 80 S auto, 88, F reg, almond beige met, only 5,107 miles. — £11,695.
JOHN FOX LIMITED, VERNON ROAD, BASFORD, NOTTINGHAM.
Tel (0602) 789 291.

1988 FEBURARY AUDI QUATTRO TURBO.
Metallic black, 15,000 miles, sunroof, stereo, alloys. All usual Audi refinements. £24,000.
Contact Stephen Dearsey 02217 6989 (home) or 0845 665252 (business) T.

86 D
Audi 200 Avant Quattro, Stone Grey Metallic, PAS, ABS, half leather, electric sunroof, air conditioning, cruise control, 1 owner, 38,000mls. £17,995.
Scotts of Sloane Sq.
Tel. 01-730 2131.

AUDI 100CC - White saloon. 1986 C reg. 1 owner, 24,000 miles, private sale. £6,995. SE London. Tel: 01-467 1298.

AUDI COUPE GT 2.2i
E reg, as new, metallic champagne, all usual refinements inc. fitted sunroof, very low mileage. £10,955.
Tel: (0279)411485 (eves & w/ends) or (0279)445555 (daytime).

AUDI QUATTRO - Turbo. 1986. red. FSH. ABS. 36,000 miles. £13,950. Tel:(0483) 222300.

AUDI'S We will not willingly be beaten on any deal, we really do try harder. Tel: 0820 26267

QUATTRO TURBO '87 D. black/black leather interior. full spec. M.D.'s car. FSH. £18,995. Wayside garage (0908)641536 (7 days).

REGISTRATION NUMBERS

HUE 1N £1,000 or best offer Tel (0992) 464418

JHF1 on retention cert 1983. 57,000 miles. Blue colour coded. Auto car road test and photos available. £20,000 or will separate. Phone Clements 0344-228939/886978.

MEE 1 On 1982 silver Mercedes 500SL convertible, ABS, 48,000 miles. offers in excess of £50,000. Tel: (0234) 211411 (office) (02303) 624 (home).

YHY 2 Available for immediate transfer. Offers £2,250 Tel: 0582 873328

هكذا من الأصل

MOTORING

Changing Motown

The US car market is driving towards Europe. Daniel Ward sums up the new outlook at the Detroit motor show

The United States has not just one motor show a year but 35 relatively small exhibitions spread across the bigger cities. And that is the country's problem – there is no individual show worthy of international status. Despite the second biggest car market in the world, the United States has, until now, not had a place on the Birmingham, Frankfurt, Geneva, Paris and Tokyo circuit.

Detroit, as the undisputed "Motown" to Americans, and the home of Henry Ford's first attempts at mass production, the bedrock of the industry, enjoys an obvious advantage over Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles and the rest.

Five years ago an international American "auto show" would have seemed irrelevant to Europe but the automotive world is changing fast. Cars conceived by the Big Three – General Motors, Ford and Chrysler – are more European than ever before and, as the US dollar is weak, these cars are more likely to be exported to Europe than the previous generation of chrome-laden giants.

The Japanese producers such as Honda are building up their production capacity in the United States and as fears grow that there will soon be too many cars chasing too few customers, US-built Japanese cars could be exported to Europe, where they would be sold free from import restrictions. Furthermore, the huge importance of the US market to the Japanese means that their significant new models are often launched in the United States first, and some are designed only for the US market.

Detroit is assured a style of its own. The show is at the recently modernized Cobo Hall in "downtown Detroit", where the buildings struggle to shed the decay associated with race riots. In the aftermath Henry Ford encouraged the building of the Renaissance Centre, a huddle of skyscrapers and hotels, in a bid to regenerate one of the worst areas. It is a few minutes on the driverless "people-mover", with its track mounted three or four storeys above the streets, past the Joe Louis ice hockey arena to the hall.

The contents could only be American. Mount Rushmore was moved from South Dakota for the occasion. A massive foam replica of the famous presidential profiles opens to discourage a new Dodge pick-up. We were assured the Indian chief narrator for these bizarre antics was capable of 22 animated motions and spoke in an authentic Indian dialect.

The same Disneyland technology was applied to Carroll Shelby, the American racing folk hero, whose "animatronic figure" behind the wheel of a Dodge Daytona Shelby car automatically wound the window down, turned his head and said hello. Not a bad performance for a lump of glass fibre and urethane.

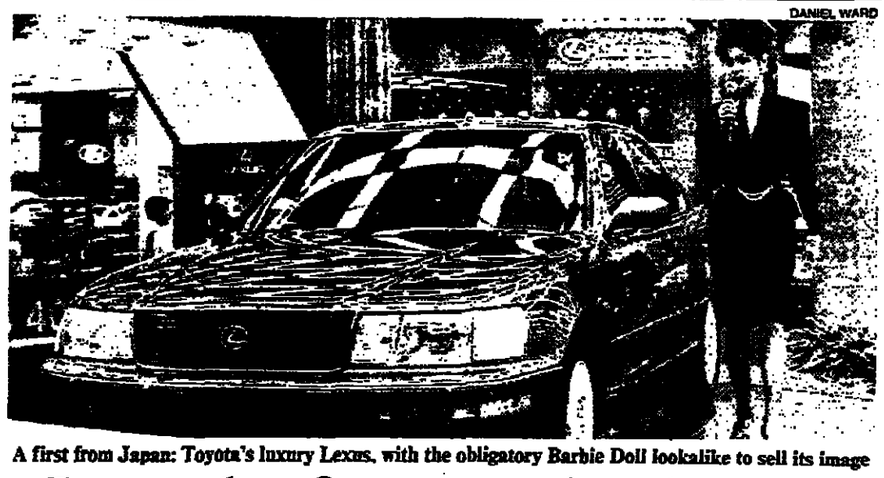
To reinforce the impression that reality had, at least temporarily been suspended, a 6ft transparent robot stood close by, providing dumbfounded onlookers with information via a television screen in his chest.

A lump of fibre glass and urethane in the shape of a racing driver winds down a window, turns his head and says hello

A bank of 27 televisions and three computers were needed to create just three minutes of holographic effects around a Dodge Talon coupé. The technological *tour de force* created the illusion of a bald eagle landing on a car and a model speaking from the driver's seat. At other times the body disappeared to leave the chassis, and the wheels and luggage vanished. After that, actually driving the car could be a considerable anti-climax.

It appears that no American show is complete without Barbie Doll-like models strutting around the stands. Their scripted *spiel* is made for *Monty Python* or *Spitting Image*. Three days listening to the *Dynasty* understudies stumbling over such statements as "Four-wheel disc brakes come along for the ride", "It has a variable nozzle turbo", "This piece of auto technology wizardry means less shifting in town", and "The Tracker is one tough little guy", took the gloss off this feature of Detroit. In Paris the models are elegant and silent.

Americans like sales slogans, though they do not bear close scrutiny: "The great American road was built for Buick", "Chevrolet, the heartbeat of America", "Pontiac, we build excitement", and "The new spirit of Dodge".



DANIEL WARD

A first from Japan: Toyota's luxury Lexus, with the obligatory Barbie Doll lookalike to sell its image

Launch of a crowning luxury

For the Japanese car-makers, still able to remember the days of assembling Austin Somersets under licence because they had no designs of their own, the Detroit show presented a crowning moment.

Nissan and Toyota launched their first luxury cars, accurately aimed at the gap between the relatively cheap Lincolns and Cadillacs and the now fiercely expensive European imported Jaguar XJ6, BMW 7 Series and Mercedes S class.

The newcomers will not be sold alongside bread-and-butter models, as Nissan and Toyota have created new marque names, Infiniti and Lexus, and separate exclusive dealers to market the biggest threat yet seen to the status quo in the US luxury car market. Although there are no official plans to launch Infiniti in Europe, Lexus will make its debut at the 1990 Geneva motor show.

Powered by a 4.5 litre, 270 bhp V8 engine, the Q45 Infiniti will outpace Mercedes' $80,000 flagship, the 560 SEL, yet is less than half the cost. In engineering terms, both Japanese cars are refreshingly devoid of technical excesses, instead emulating the understated sophistication of the West German rivals.

BMW and Mercedes provided much of the inspiration for the styling. The Lexus, in particular, is a close brother to Stuttgart's handsome S class model. Huge chrome door handles and fussy badges detract from the elegance of the Q45.

They feel like big cars. The Infiniti has an extraordinarily simple, sculptured leather cabin, and the solid feel and finish of the Lexus should worry all rivals.

Nissan and Toyota are reputed to have spent $2 billion to $3 billion each on their luxury cars. If the expensive gamble pays off, BMW, Jaguar and Mercedes are likely to come under severe pressure in the American luxury car market, especially as Lincolns and Cadillacs are staging a recovery.

The veehickle that beats all the American cars

The best-selling vehicle (pronounced *veehickle* by American industry executives) in the United States is not a car but a truck – a rugged pick-up truck. No one seems surprised that sales of more than 500,000 in 1988 were achieved by one of the oldest machines on the market, the Ford F series.

The only nervousness among Ford executives is how they should replace such an old favourite. General Motors is not about to lose its number one position in the American car market, but 1988 was clearly Ford's year.

As the group improved its share of the market to 21.7 per cent, the Ford division beat Chevrolet to be the best-selling brand for the first time in 34 years. Escort was the best-selling car while the stylish Ford Thunderbird Super Coupé won the American equivalent of the Car of the Year award. The day after the ceremony, Detroit newspapers reported that engine problems had halted production of the Thunderbird, a clone of the 6 Series BMW coupé.

In a market where 10.59 million cars were sold last year, and a record 5.11 million trucks registered, the number of brand names under the roof at Cobo Hall was daunting. First, GM has its traditional Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Oldsmobile and Pontiac divisions with 50 model names between them.

Ford has Ford, Mercury and Lincoln, to which has been added Merkur, to sell Ford Granadas and Sierras. The number three manufacturer, Chrysler, has the Chrysler division, Dodge and Plymouth, adding recently Jeep Eagle.

The cars sold by Detroit no longer conform to the bulky, thirsty, poor-handling stereotype and now fall into three distinct categories.

The old-style American cars do remain, and as Cadillac has just lengthened its Fleetwood sedan and De Ville by nine inches, it suggests they are not dead yet. Loyalty among 65-year-olds is unshakable for such cars as the barely modern Ford Town Car. There is still a customer who wants buttoned upholstery, fake wood, chrome everything, and instruments that would not look out of place on a cooker, and, of course, a lazy V8 engine and a ride akin to a water bed.



DANIEL WARD

In demand: Ford's F series pick-up, the 1988 biggest seller in the US

The younger American driver has already made the transition to a more up-to-date offering from Detroit, though it is likely to retain the chrome grille, the shiny plastic and the quirky upright small rear window of its predecessors.

A brief drive in the latest Mercury Cougar XR7 supercharger confirmed that very strong acceleration, combined with good braking, handling and an excellent ride, are no longer mutually exclusive on American cars.

The smallest American cars are invariably Japanese, Korean or Taiwanese, with Detroit badges. Chevrolet's new Geo range consists entirely of other people's models, mainly Suzuki, Isuku and Dae Woo, designed to give GM some small cars with which to slow down the Japanese invasion. Ford relies on Mazda or Korea's Kia, while Chrysler sells Mitsubishis.

The latest generation of sleek coupés is the result of joint design and American manufacture between American and Japanese companies. Ford and Mazda have launched one, and the remarkably similar Chrysler-Mitsubishi coupé was launched last week in Detroit.

It is still possible to buy a station wagon built like a house, with plastic wood glued down the side, but Americans are switching in their droves from estate cars to MPVs – multi-purpose vehicles. In Europe the nearest equivalent to these seven-seaters are the Renault Espace and Nissan Prairie. MPVs now account for at least 800,000 sales a year. GM unveiled its very striking, all-plastic contender model, to be sold as the Chevrolet Lumina and Pontiac Transsport.

Playing second fiddle to the Big Three in the United States are the Japanese, led by Honda.

At Detroit the Europeans had been dragged out from the basement, where they were last year, but their presence wholly lacked the style and prestige they attain at the Geneva or Frankfurt shows. Many companies still treated it like a dealer show, to the point where Jaguar's Detroit dealer sold the only XJS convertible to a woman who had won a local lottery and insisted on buying the Jaguar. The star of Jaguar's stand was nowhere to be seen.

ROADWISE

■ A bizarre and unhealthy new craze has emerged among American car-stereo fanatics, based firmly on quantity not quality. Up to 150 decibels of sound are used to blow the car's windows out in informal "sound-off" competitions.

■ American motorists are a favourite target for state law-makers. Now, when South Carolina drivers turn on their wipers, they must also turn on their lights. A senator has already conceded it will be a difficult law to enforce. And it is against the law to drive in New York without both front and rear bumpers.

■ Bumper stickers started in the United States with flower power in the 1960s, but the worthy bumper slogan proclaiming, "Save the Whales", has been succeeded by "Save the Humans".

■ Insurance companies in the US have banded together to form the Group United Against Radar Detectors and in the next few months 20 police departments will begin testing laser speed traps that will give owners of radar detectors no warning.

VOLKSWAGEN

SCOTTS

A LARGE SELECTION OF USED CABRIOLETS AVAILABLE FROM £8000

88F Golf GTI 3 Door, Diamond Silver Metallic BBS, Alloys, 9,000 Miles £10,250

88E Golf GTI 3 Door, Helios Blue Metallic, Electric Mirrors, Central Locking, 5,000 Miles £9,250

87E Golf GTI 3 Door, Atlas Grey Metallic, Tinted Glass, 9,000 Miles £8,750

86D Golf GTI 5 Door, White, Alloys, 20,000 Miles .. £6,750

88E Golf Tour 1800 Helios Blue Metallic, 6000 Miles £7,950

88E Golf GL 1800 White, Power Steering, Central Locking, Sunroof, 10,000 Miles £8,750

87D Golf GL 1800, Tornado Red, 34,000 Miles £6,250

NON FRANCHISE

88E Vauxhall Nova 1.3 SR, Helios Blue, Alloys Alarm, Sunroof, Tints, 14,000 Miles, 2 Year Warranty £6,250

CHELSEA 01-730 2131
FULHAM 01-736 2016

16v GTI. 5 doors, 1989 model, delv mileage, with leather int. Unobtainable in UK. £12,996. GTI Sectables 01-643 1151.

GOLF GOLF GOLF Over 100 new cars inc GTI's, many with extras. Immed del. (0582) 672182 (VW dealer) Open Sun. T.

GOLF GTI '88, 5 door, Atlas grey, 7,500 miles, £9,550. Also other colours. Wayside garages (0908)641635 (7 days).

GOLF GTI Black 3 door, C reg, 30,000 miles, sunroof, tinted windows, alloys. Taxed and MOT. Excellent condition. £7,000. Tel: 01-889 9968

GOLF GTI 16V special edition. F registered. All extras including remote alarm/ lock. £10,995. Tel: (0703) 332231.

GOLF GTI still searching? Look no further - ring us now, or for any VW for that matter. Tel: 0442-217101 or 46844. Scotts of Hemel Hempstead.

GOLF GTI 8V Jan '87, Tornado red, 5 door. F.S.H., s/roof, alloys, e/windows, recent new tyres. 36,000 miles. EXT warranty til Jan '90. Beautifully kept car. £7,795. Tel:(0234) 86894

OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Unbelievably available, 3 Golf Gti 16V models in Black, Tornado Red and Helius Blue. Various specifications. For immediate delivery please call Sunday only (0494) 772757 or Friday or Monday (0442) 217101 without delay.

ULTIMATE SPEC. 16 V JETTA GTI

F reg, met helios blue, also tinted, air con, PAS, EW's, Recaro electric seats, 4,000 miles only, cost new £15,600 our price £11,600.
Chesam Motors Surrey. Tel 81-394 2286.

GOLF GTi

July 86, 2dr, jade metallic, 17,000mls, one lady river, ex cond. OIRO £6,500. Tel: 01-586 3884

GOLF GTI red, sunroof, alloys, 1985, 38,000 miles only, stereo, excellent value. £6,900. (0782)622141 T

INTERCAR OFFER New Golf GTI's and 16V's and convertibles plus high VW Audi fanoe at discount prices. 01-203 3399.

NEW GOLF GTI 16V, Tornado Red, ex factory. Special Price £10,950. For additional stock and finance details Tel. 01-453 4218. T

Holland Park

OFFERS GTI 16V /8V, in all colours and all specifications from stock or to your own specification, ex works delivery. Dealer facilities. Tel 01-938 1393.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

WOBURN LAND ROVER CENTRE

E '87 Range Rover Vogue Automatic in Savannah beige, registered 1/8/87, 16,800 miles, complete with air conditioning..... £22,500.

E '87 Range Rover Vogue Manual in shire blue, registered 1/8/87, 22,000 miles complete with air conditioning..... £21,500.

F '88 Land Rover 110 V8 Pickup complete with ¾ canvass, PAS, trim-pack A, tow-pack, ivory white, new delivery milage only..... £11,695 + VAT.

F '88 Due to export cancellation, LHD, 2.5 petrol high capacity 110 Land Rover complete with PAS, de-lux trim, inished in Arran beige, delivery milage only. ..... £9,995 + VAT.

Telephone (0525) 290635
Woburn Abbey Garage Ltd,
London Rd, Woburn, Milton Keynes.

1988 TOYOTA Celica GT4 Turbo. Black. 6,000mls. fully alarmed. £18,995. 1988 Camry 4WD. Red Mica. delivery mileage only. £14,995. 081-846 8528. T.

DAIHATSU 4 Trak Diesel Turbo. LWB, 1987 E reg, black/silver, s/roof, alloys, nudge bars. 40,000 miles. FSH. 1 owner. £10,800. (0702) 528668 T

ISUZU TROOPERS Several in Stock immediate delivery. Petrol/ Diesel. Tel: 0860 376914 T

MERCEDES 280 G wagon LWB, petrol manual. 1981, left HD. 75,000 kms. immac. a/c. £7,800. Tel (0603) 720328.T.

MERCEDES 280 CES auto. silver metallic, tinted windows. 1st reg Aug 88 (F). 6,200 miles. immaculate condition. O/o £20,600. Tel. (0742) 701002 office or (0246) 882660 home.

MITSUBISHI TURBO SHOGUN LWB. Metallic silver. Directors dream car, private sale. £13,500. Terms available. 'C' reg. all electric windows, power steering etc. every extra. Tel:01-698 6692 (anytime)

RANGE ROVER Vogue. 1986 D-Reg. 34,000 miles. 1 owner. a/c. ESR. alarm. in Cayrise reg. all electric windows, power steering etc. every extra. Tel:01-698 6692 (anytime)

RANGE ROVER Vogue SE April 88 7,800 miles. Caspian blue. vehicle alarm. many extras. £26,995. Tel (0543) 481600 eves and w/es or (021)356 3567 office hours.

RANGE ROVER - EFI 1986. 5 Speed silver. FSH. immaculate. £16,000 Tel:(0773) 609146 or (0860) 839486. PX Porsche.

VOGUE Auto. F reg. Classic metallic con. 6,000 miles. As new. £24,000. 0629 71144 T

MITSUBISHI SHOGUN.

SWB, silver, one owner, FSH. £10,450.

EUROCARS (LONDON) LTD. Tel 01-229 0085.or 01-221 5828.

RANGE ROVER required, new, late, low mileage. Executive cars. Tel (021) 200 1288. (021) 454 7771.

SINGLIM 988-Mogul Turbo - 240 BHP. 6 dr. LWB. May 1988. 7,500 miles. 0-60 in 7.5 secs. Over 115mph. Kaiser silver/ Grace silver. BHR 11 month warranty rem. Extensive extras. Excellent value. Save approx £4,000 on total cost new. £18,650. (0242) 529 529.

NEW CARS

UNBEATABLE PRICES on NEW AUSTIN ROVER and VW RANGE.
Ring M.C.L on (0932) 855983, 24 hrs or (0860) 414854.
Fax: 0932 854848.
Most other makes supplied at discount. Retail and Fleet enquiries welcome.

PORSCHE

1987 MODEL
'86 D REG PORSCHE 911 SC SPORTS TARGA
Finished in black with full black leather upholstery, 22,000 miles, full service history, £29,795.
Please phone P. Ayles, Bowers of Harpenden
(0582)461222 (Office);
(05827)67502 (home).

911 CARRERA SPORT CABRIOLET
July '85, 30,000 miles, white, grey hood, full grey leather, every extra. FSH. £26,950
Tel: (0737) 765998 (work) or (0737) 222845 (home)

1988 E Porsche 944
finished with immaculate guards red coachwork and helios interior, tinted electric sunroof, special alloy wheels, FSH, this desirable low mileage car is offered for sale at £23,995.
Telephone (0895) 74842 9am-6pm, other hours (03803) 845.T

1988 PORSCHE 944S 16V
White, electric sunroof/seats, hi-fi, one owner, 11,000 miles. £24,500.
Contact Stephen Downey. 02317 6689 (home). 0846 665252 (business) T

PORSCHE 944
lux 1986 model, Guard's red, many extras including electric sunroof. One owner, in top condition 50,000 miles.
£14,950.
Tel: (06285) 29691 (office hours).

PORSCHE 911 CARRERA TURBO BODY
1986, guard's red, stereo, excellent condition,
£32,500 ono.
Tel:01-858 7738 (H) or 01-283 9549 (W).

PORSCHE 928S4
Auto '87 D, guards red, black hide, red piping, one owner, 24,000 miles, full documented Porsche main dealer history, (no sunroof). £35,495.
Tel: (0273) 832935 or (0860) 363829. T

85B 911 CARRERA
Targa Sport Porsche. Grand prix white including wheels. Black hide upholstery/white piping. Cencor alarm, full spec. 53,000 miles. FSH. First offer £26,000 secures.
Tel: (H) 041-332 8174.

928 S4 1988
White, Burgundy Leather, Sunroof, Excellent Condition. £47,500
Tel: Home 0625 32266. Business 061 834 1582 extension 316.

926 - A Reg. 1983. Silver, black interior. 35k miles. £7,950. P/ex considered. Tel (0484) 20997.

928S2 1985, auto, full navvy leather int, sunroof, Iris blue met, 80,000 miles. Full Porsche history. Do not confuse with poor quality examples, this one is excellent. £24,995. Tel: 01 990 7422 / 0860 372648 T..

944 '86 D, white, black pinstripe, 31,000 miles, ESR, 216's, remote alarm, FSH, one owner, immac. £16,980. Tel:(0371)84 806 Essex (anytime)

944 1985 C, metallic graphite, sunroof, fogs, 43,000mls, wide wheels, new tyres, FSH, reluctantly traded up, so £13,980. Tel: (0442)259904 (home). 780586 (office).

944 1986, 40,980 miles, champagne, PAS, FSH, mint condition; electric windows, all usual extras. £15,995. 031-658 1501 or (0836)374887 p/ex considered. HP arranged. T

944 LUX '88 A reg, champagne gold, brown pin-stripe, arrival of new turbo forces sale. Excellent condition. Above average mileage hence asking price £9,750. Tel 0305 711211.

944S 1987 White, black interior, 11,000 miles. Totally immaculate. FSH. Electric sunroof and seat. Hi Fi. Remote alarm. £20,980 Tel: 01-493 7476 (day) or (043879) 789 (eves).

944 TURBO SE limited edition. 18,000 miles. £34,990. Tel. (0843) 481600 eves and w/es or (02138) 85667 office hours.

PORSCHE 944 guard's red. August '88, top specification £34,750. Tel:07093 360811

MERCEDES, BMW, PORSCHE, VW/AUDI

Save money and long delivery by personally importing your next car. Also of interest to companies
Tel: 01049-223448614; Telex 889955D T.

PORSCHE 911 Carrera sport coupe, 87 D, 13,000 miles, guards red/black, FSH, claimsmore car, immaculate. £33,000. 01-499 1845/8976.

944 TURBO

1986, 27,000 miles. White/black leather. Forged alloys. Usual extras, a/c, sunroof. Recently serviced at Follet.
£21,000.
Tel: 01-247 3217 (W), 01-505 3325 (H).

PORSCHE 924 S. C reg, guards red, 61,000 miles, one owner, superbly maintained. £11,995. Tel: (0753)859 4202 home, or (0734) 303670 office.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER

JAGUAR XJSC
5.3, f reg, black/saville, electric hood, immaculate, 4,000 miles, registered 15th September 1988. £38,800. Extended warranty.
Tel: (0923) 36906 office hours.

XJS 12 C REG CONVERTIBLE
Metallic grey, 8,000 mls, garaged from new. Mint cond. Full service history. £22,000 firm.
Tel: 01-948 5805 Sunday/eves or office hours 01-351 7465 Mr. Mabbut.

JAGUAR SOV. D REG 2.9
15,000 miles. Electric mirrors, windows, sunroof, seats. Bronze with light tan interior. Immac condition. FSH. Ex-MD's car.
£20,000 OVNO
01 422 2235 (daytime), 0895 674292 (eves)

XJS V12
Feb 1985, red/black int. Ex cond. 48,000 mls, FSH, offers over £14,000.
Tel: 01-586 3884.

4.2 DAIMLER - Sovereign 65 (A). FSH, all extras, £9,500. Tel:01 458 5611 (Office hours).

JAGUAR XJS V12, (June 87). Bordeaux Metallic/magnolia Hide-Red Piping. 15,000 miles. £23,000. Tel: Home (02302) 6196 - Office (0234) 327404.

JAGUAR SOVEREIGN 1987 D (new shape), 24,000 miles, auto. Alpine green with biscuit interior. FSH, one owner, £21,000. Tel: (0628)628595 or (0628)822401.

JAGUAR XJ6 2.9 automatic. Bordeaux red metallic, extras, registered August 1st 88, 12k miles. £21,000. Tel. (0270) 841657.

NEW Daimler 3.6 Auto, classic Westminster blue with dove skin hide, immediate delivery with discount. Tel: 0909 482573 (office) or 0709 814939 (home).

SOVEREIGN 4.2 Auto 1986 (B) dark blue/grey hide. 44,000 miles, FSH, perfect condition. £13,500 Tel: 0477 71468.

SOVEREIGN 3.6 Auto 6reg, D reg. 19,000 miles, superb condition, 1 owner, F.S.H. Jaguar car phone included. £23,118. Tel:0908 - 211266 ex 109

USED Jaguar & Daimlers. 21 years experience. Finest selection in England. Choice of 36 cars. 83/88 PX/HP. Used Jaguar warranty. Hammertons of London 01-554 9833.

XJS 3.4 automatic. 86D. claret/tan, only 12,000 miles, immaculate. £12,995. Tel: (0883) 843979 T.

XJS V12

Aug 88, F reg, Arctic blue, magnolia leather interior, with optional special alloy wheels. 4,800 miles. Genuine reason for this private sale. £29,500.
Tel: (0702) 715933 (H) 0702 471131 9-6pm

XJ6 JAGUAR 3.6 SALOON.

Arctic Blue, Seville leather trim. Air con, auto, elec s/r. January '89 cancelled order. £28,500.
Tel: 051 933 4338.

XJS CONVERTIBLE E reg. April 1988. Solent blue/mag. int. Pristine. 4,000 miles only. Fully loaded inc. telephone. £36,950. Tel: 01-429 0444 or 429 0122 9-9 weekdays.

XJS 3.6. 1986 D registration. 28,000 miles. FSH. private owner. as new. £18,950. 01-506 1568, 0836 245090.

XJS V12, 1988. Tungsten grey, leather int. FSH. Meads warranty, alarm, a/c. Driving ban forces sale. £17,750. Day 061 834 0288 Eve 061 794 7125

JAGUAR & DAIMLER WANTED

All models, late, low mileage, history. Executive cars. Tel (021) 200 1288. (021) 454 7771.

MERCEDES AUTHORISED DEALERS

300SL, 87 Signal red, 11,000 miles, £28,950. Gayfords Mercedes Agents 01 767 1422.

500SEL, 88 Hydro level, 12,000 miles, £45,950. Gayfords Merc. Agents. Tel: 01 767 1422.

MERCEDES

MERCEDES 200 T ESTATE.
F reg (1989). Finished in signal red, with contrasting grey interior. Electric sunroof, alloy wheels, centre arm rest, blaupunkt stereo etc. 4,500 miles. As New. £18,995. Px welcome. Finance available.
Northampton (0604) 870396. T

MAGNIFICENT MERCEDES 300 SL
F Reg, 8,000 miles. In perfect condition, all leather and usual mod cons. A perfect lady's car, gun metal grey and grey leather interior. Superb Value at £22,000.
Tel 01-884 7512

560 SEC 1987 E. Ivory with dark brown hide. 19,600 miles. Becker Mexico radio. Total spec. £48,960. Tel: Sun (0860) 644854, weekdays 01-499 8342 T

190 - B Reg. (Feb 85) auto, burgundy, e/w, sunroof, stereo, FSH. Good cond. 43,000 miles. £8,500. Tel 01 636 4583 Day.

190 COSWORTH 1986. Smoke silver, leather, a/c, elec seat, all extras. 1 owner. £18,750. Tel: (0209) 202148/870830 T

190E 2.3 16 valve. Blue/black. 86 C. 20,000 miles. Many extras. Full service history. £21,500. Tel (0582) 36106 (D) (0582) 491281. (H).

190 E 5 speed. November 88. White, blue cloth. Electric roof & windows. Good music. 2,500 miles. UK supplied. £17,500. (0243) 512818 (Sussex).

190E Cosworth 1986 29,000 miles. Many extras. £21,500. Tel: (042879) 3244.

190E C reg. black with full Mercedes body kit, fully loaded inc ABS, elec roof and windows, leather, etc etc. Fabulous car. £12,960. PX and warranty. Amersham (0494) 431452 or (0860) 356826.

190E E reg. Charcoal Met, elec s/r, full stereo system, 5th Excellent condition. £14,795 ONO. Tel (0604) 770494.

190E 2.6 auto, 88 F, diamond blue met, full Mercedes coupe spec inc 7 inch alloys. RHR. FCA. Pioneer stereo, all electrics. ABS. full walnut int (Facia and cappings), totally as new, Merc warranty Nov 89, 2,700 miles, one private owner. Must be seen. £25,000. Tel (0873) 78899. (24 Hours).T

190E 2.6 LHD, 1988, MAN, Amth, 14,000mls, hi-spec. FSH. £18K. Tel 01-408 1943.

1985 Mercedes 500 SEC. Total Spec. Guards Red. Black Leather int. Full Skirt Kit. AMG wheels and tyres. This vehicle is as new. FSH. £39,500 - PX considered. This vehicle is re-advertised due to a sellers poser. Tel (0455) 291202.

1987 560SEC Mercedes Benz Blue Black metallic with beige leather trim. Total specification including auto climate control. 17,000 miles. FSH. £48,995. Hamble Motors 0703 453767.

230CE August 88. F reg. Auto, blue/black, high spec. 4,500 miles, as new. £26,000. Tel: (0383) 620600

230E - Auto. F reg. Smoke silver metallic. 3,500 miles. Front arm rests, electric roof, alloy wheels, expensive music system. Absolutely as new. £19,500. Tel (0990) 20971 or 0860229905.

230E Directors car. 1986 Met blue/black. ABS. E/W, ESR, alarm. R/C. immac cond, FSH. £14,995 Tel:01 886 0317 (w/e)

MERCEDES-BENZ

FIRST FOR LEASING FINANCE CONTRACT HIRE
MERCEDES BENZ FOR LEASE OR PURCHASE

1988 F. 190 TE Pearmatic Estate, Auto, S/Roof, E/Windows, Alloy Wheels, Finished in Metallic Black £198.80pw

1988 E. 260SE Coupe, E/Windows, Rear Seat, Heated Seats, H/soft Tops, Cruise Control, Sync Alarm, Headlamp W/Wips, Alloy Wheels, Finished in Red £189.58pw

1988 F. 300CE Coupe, Grey Leather Interior, Air/Con, S/Roof, Alloy Wheels, 600 Miles only, Finished in Blue/Black Metallic £282.58pw

1988 C. 300E Auto, S/Roof, E/Windows, C/Armrest, R/Headrests, Leather Steering Wheel, C/Control, ABS, Finished in Metallic Black £155.80pw

1987 D. 190E, Sun/Roof, Auto, 14000 miles with F.S.H., Finished in Red, £98.95pw

1986 D. 190E Sun/Roof, Auto, 22000 miles with F.S.H., Finished in Metallic Blue £85.28pw

1987 E. 230E Sun/Roof, F/Windows, F.S.H., Finished in Smoked Silver . £183.85pw

FIRST LEASING & FINANCE 0443 298125

190 E

5sp manual April 1988, 3,500 miles, white, ESR, arm rests, electric windows.
£16,500.
Tel: 01-992 6681 or (0742) 663900.

230E November 88. New Style/ 124 Model. 78,000 miles. 1 owner. F.S.H. Thistle Green metallic. Manual. Excellent. £11,480. Tel: 0602 701401 during the day.

230 E Manual 87E signal red, beige cloth, 30,500 miles, ESR, EFW, armrest, alarm, FSH, £13,950 Tel 0704 822611 (H) or 02572 69944 (W).

230 E auto. 88 (E). one owner. 7,000 miles, FSH, many extras, lease from £104 per week. Executive Cars. Tel (021) 200 1288. (021) 454 7771.

230TE 1988. Diamond blue. EW, ESR Automatic. 8,000 miles. £18,995. Tel: 01-278 1397.

260E Auto 87 E. anthracite, ABS, e/roof, e/windows, FSH, 1 owner, 32,000 miles hence £19,950 ono. 095 287 295

260E Auto. '87 D, chairmans car in exceptional condition, ABS, ESR, EW, FSH, finished in beige, genuine 8,571 miles. £18,500. Wayside garages (0908)641536 (7 days).

260E Auto. 86D. champagne, air con, heated mem seats, ESR, e/w, cruise control, alr bag, alloys & alarm. 44,000m, ex cond. £17,500. 0462 36688

280 SL SPORTS. 1983. A reg, finished in black, alloy wheels, rear seat, auto, £16,995. Usual dealer facilities. 01-502 1449 or (after hours) 01-508 7706.

280CE August 82 Y. 22,000 miles. Automatic. Power steering. Central locking. Elec windows. Radio cassette. Alloy wheels. Cruise control. Elec sun. Leather. ABS. Air cond. £11,000. 0474 823000.

280 SE Auto. A reg, silver blue, 2 owners, e/sunroof, EW, alloys, FSH, 78,000 miles. Immaculate condition, drives beautifully. £10,950. Tel: (0932) 853471

280 SE 1984. B Reg. 1 owner from new. Brown with cream leather interior. sunroof. alloy wheels. ABS, cruise control. electric seats. radio cassette player. 64,000 miles. Full Mercedes Benz service history. superb condition. £14,995. Tel: (0602) 606148.

280 SE 1984, Midnight blue/oatmeal cloth interior, EW, C/L. Orthopaedic seats. 80,000 miles, FSH. 1 lined owner, plus 1 private. £11,995. (0702) 529668 T

280TE V. reg, red, auto, e/windows, s/roof, VGC. £4,200 ono. Tel (0322) 522205

450SLC

'79, thistle green, 53,000 miles, full spec, excellent example,
£13,995.
Tel: (0962) 880466 or 880416.

4-MATIC 4WD. MERCEDES 300 TE

Estate, Auto, 2,000 miles, F Reg, full spec car including leather.
£35,995.
Tel: H G L (0983) 522555

MINIBUS MERCEDES 310

Petrol, L.W.B. 85 B reg. Auto. White, radio, stereo hi-fi, taxed and MOT 1 year, 28,000 miles, FSH. Hydraulic side doors, valve rem. A useful coach and drives accordingly. £5,999 ono, px possible.
Tel: 01-254 6924

300 CE 'F' reg. Del mil. Blue Black. Extras. UK car. Private sale. £29,950 ono
Tel: 0565 2605

380 E 88/E. Privately owned. Most extras inc. air-con, 6 seats nom., ESR, £1500 CD/radio full Cobra alarm. 12,000 miles. alloys. £26,960. 01-668 6185

300E 1987, diamond blue, ABS, air cond, sunroof, 19,000 miles, one owner, FSH, £19,950. Tel: 01-940 9886 weekdays, 01-879 3991 Sunday. T

300SE C. reg. 1986. Gold metallic. ABS, f/c, er, ew, a/wheels, a/v, 1 owner, 61,000 miles. £17,250 ono. Daytime (0533) 830380/ eve and w/ends (0533) 734696.

300 SE 86 D. smoke silver, cream int. stereo, elec sunroof, 20,000 miles. FSH. one private owner, as new. £22,950. Tel (0873) 78899 (24 HOURS).T.

300 SEL. Pertmut grey/red leather. 300 SEL. Sun blue/grey leather. 300 SE Anthracite/black leather. All new RHD. From £21,300 Tax Free. Ring Germany 01049 2921 68615 Office. T

300SL. 1967. Diamond blue. Full leather interior. ABS. Alloy wheels. 9,000 miles. FSH. As New. £28,950. (04868) 82492.

350 SL 1973 Gold, hard/soft tops, vgc, taxed & MOT. £7,950. Tel home 01-546 2650, office 01-579 0449

350SL 1975, H/S top, alloys. Private plate. very low mileage. £9,900. (0831)81664 T

380 SL 1978 Primrose, beautiful H/S tops, alloys, replacement engine still under guarantee. £12,500. Tel: (0249) 782894.

420SEL 87 E. Nautic blue. 1 owner. Full history. A/C. A/W. ESR. etc. 13,000 miles. Bargain £27,950. W/E 01 502 2988. Day 01 897 6866 Stadium.

450 SL Lhd convertible, 1978 vgc, metallic gold/black, hard/soft tops, auto, all extras including cruise control, alloys new VR tyres. FSH. £9,000 Tel Essex 0702 526234.

500 SEC 1985 (A), 20,000 miles. FSH. Perfect condition. £21,950. Tel (0932) 64564.T.

500 SEC - A Reg 1985. Leather, air con, electric seats, 80,000 miles, FSH. £19,996. Tel:day 01 809 4810 or eves 550 8194.

500SEC 88 model. 24,000 miles. History, leather, air con, ABS. Excellent condition. £26,500 P/X poss. Tel: 021 776 7567.

500 SEL. Metallic Blue, cream velour interior. High spec. B reg. Must be seen. £18,960 Private sale (0342)84 2571.

560 SL. All extras, arctic white, navy leather, 1987, D Reg, immaculate. £34,999. Office: 01 499 8280, Home 0277 631430.

Continued on next page

CRICKET: LAST ONE-DAY QUALIFIER BRINGS AUSTRALIA RENEWED HOPE FOR FORTHCOMING CONTESTS

Pitch gives a clue to Test fortunes

From John Woodcock
Sydney

Nothing was more remarkable about the last of the qualifying matches in the World Series Cup, played here yesterday, than the size of the crowd. Although the finalists had already been decided and both sides rested key players, 45,620 people turned up. Most of them were still there, reeling under the stars, as Australia beat West Indies by 61 runs.

Of more significance than the result, with the next Test match being played on the same ground in a fortnight's time, was the pitch. It was very pale and the ball turned enough, with the odd one keeping low, for Taylor and Border to win the match by taking, between them, six wickets for 27 runs in the course of 11 overs.

Needing 216 in 48 overs, West Indies passed 100 in the 27th over with only two wickets down. Less than an hour later they were 134 for eight. It was on just such a pitch, four years ago, that Australia last beat West Indies, Holland and Bennett spinning them to an innings victory. The plan now, of course, is for a repeat of that.

As they can, West Indies yesterday looked quite nonplussed by a turning ball. With Jones making 77 and both Waughs having reached the 40s, Australia can approach the first of the WSC finals in Melbourne tomorrow with all their batsmen in some sort of form. They are fielding well and now they became comfortably the first side in these one-day matches to get through an innings without bowling a wide, which shows they are concentrating.

It never seemed to dawn on Jones, though, that West Indies were not going to bowl their 50 overs in the three and a half hours allotted to them in the field. This meant that the final acceleration in Australia's innings was shorter than it should have been. All that poor Border had time for was a slog, as brief as it was crude.

Jones worked hard for his runs, made in 132 balls. He was neither in much trouble nor able to score freely. The best batting came from Stephen Waugh, with his brother not far behind. Stephen's improvisation showed a real flair.

In the absence of Greenidge, who had been given the match off, Haynes took Dujon in with him when West Indies batted, and not until Stephen Waugh bowled a juicy full toss to Dujon in the fifteenth over did a wicket fall. Dujon hit it high to mid-on. Richardson soon went, but Haynes was at his best and, with Arthurton missing nothing between the wickets, things looked to be building up to a close finish.

Then, at 91 for two, Border, seeing that the ball was turning, joined Taylor in the attack. At 105 he bowled the left-handed Arthurton between bat and pad, at 110 he turned one past Haynes as he went out to scotch the spin and had him stumped. Richards, sweeping, was very well caught by Marsh, low down near the square leg umpire, and Harper was leg-before.

Suddenly Australians were looking forward to the fourth Test match a lot less apprehensively than they did to the last two. They liked to think that they had rediscovered an Achilles' heel and that, when the time comes, the groundsman will do his stuff.

If West Indies are to be beaten on anything, in a Test match that is, it is much the most likely to be on a slow turner, and almost anything would be preferable to seeing the ball constantly flying round the batsmen's ears again. Meanwhile we have the WSC finals to see to and every prospect of a close contest. While Australia have won their last four one-day matches, West Indies have lost their last three.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA

D C Boon c Arthurton b Marshall	6
G R Marsh c Arthurton b Bishop	24
D M Jones b Ambrose	77
M E Waugh c Haynes b Marshall	42
S R Waugh not out	40
*A R Border b Ambrose	3
S P O'Donnell not out	3
Extras (lb 7, w 4, nb 9)	20
Total (5 wkts, 48 overs)	215

†I A Healy, P L Taylor, C J McDermott and M G Hughes did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-59, 3-137, 4-191, 5-211.

BOWLING: Marshall 10-3-25-2; Patterson 9-0-50-0; Bishop 10-1-34-1; Ambrose 9-0-42-2; Harper 9-0-51-0; Richards 1-0-6-0.

WEST INDIES

D L Haynes st Healy b Border	58
†P J Dujon c Taylor b S Waugh	17
R B Richardson c Border b McDermott	8
K L T Arthurton b Border	22
*I V A Richards c Marsh b Taylor	3
A L Logie not out	29
R A Harper lbw b Border	1
M D Marshall lbw b Taylor	1
C E L Ambrose c Border b Taylor	6
I R Bishop not out	4
Extras (lb 4, nb 1)	5
Total (8 wkts, 48 overs)	154

B P Patterson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-63, 3-107, 4-110, 5-124, 6-125, 7-125, 8-134.

BOWLING: O'Donnell 7-0-22-0; Hughes 7-1-25-0; McDermott 7-0-26-1; S Waugh 3-0-13-1; Taylor 10-2-22-3; Border 10-1-33-3; Jones 4-0-8-0.

Man of the match: P L Taylor.

Final WSC table

	P	W	L	Pts	Rate
West Indies	8	5	3	10	4.50
Australia	8	5	3	10	4.48
Pakistan	8	2	6	4	4.24



Careless driving: Allan Border, Australia's captain, is bowled by Ambrose during the one-day game against West Indies

RACING

Carson critical of assessments for Hern classic colts

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Willie Carson thinks that the official handicapper may have erred in rating both Prince Of Dance and Al Hareb, two of the jockey's possible classic mounts for 1989, 7lb inferior to High Estate in the European Free Handicap.

Carson, the breeder of Minster Son, the 1988 St Leger winner, was yesterday at the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (TBA) annual lunch to receive the Langham Cup given to the leading small breeder.

Ironical and friendly cheers greeted the 5ft 0½in former champion as he stepped forward to receive the trophy from John MacGregor, the minister of agriculture.

"I wouldn't say that the handicap is a total nonsense," Carson said. "But I would certainly think that there are grounds for disagreement."

Prince Of Dance dead-heated with Scenic for the Dewhurst Stakes and Al Hareb ended the season in a blaze of glory when easily winning the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster.

Both these group one winning performances are rated much inferior to that of the unbeaten High Estate in the group two Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot.

The TBA Flat award for 1988 was presented to John L Moore, the breeder of Mtoto, whose four victories in 1988 included the Coral-Eclipse at Sandown and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot.

The Dudgeon Cup, the award given to the leading National Hunt broodmare, went to the now dead Flower Child, who is the dam of Desert Orchid. Jimmy Burridge received the trophy.

For the second year running, Castle Moon has been voted the leading Flat broodmare of the year. Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk, received the award as the owner not only of Castle Moon, but also of her two sons, Moon Madness and Sheriff's Star.

The leading British-based stallion was Shirley Heights, the 1978 Derby winner, who was responsible for 30 individual winners of 44 races, including High Estate.

Shirley Heights's award was given for having sired the most individual winners on the Flat while the leading sire based on prize-money won was Ile De Bourbon, the father of the dual Derby winner Kahyasi.

The special award to the person who, in the opinion of the council, had made a significant contribution to the British breeding industry, was given to Peter Burrell, who was director of the National Stud from 1937 to 1971 and who has recently been involved with the equine fertility unit at Newmarket.

Field of 17 for The Ladbroke

There will be 17 runners in The Ladbroke at Leopardstown tomorrow. There were three withdrawals at yesterday's final declaration stage, the outsiders Galaxy and Strokestown Lad, and South Parade, whose defection had been announced earlier this week.

The sponsors reported Shannon Spray, laid to lose £100,000 and now 14-1 from 22-1, and Cashew King, backed to take out £50,000, as those attracting the greatest interest yesterday.

Cavvies Clown on Gold Cup trail

Cavvies Clown is 12-1 with Ladbrokes for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, in which he was second to Charter Party last year, following his comfortable four-length win from Bolands Cross in the John Bull Chase at Wincanton yesterday.

It was a timely victory for both horse and rider, Ross Arnott. Cavvies Clown was disqualified on technical grounds after winning the race a year ago, while it was a first success for Arnott since New Year's Day last year.

Cavvies Clown led from Bolands Cross after four fences and made the rest of the running. "It's the first time Cavvies Clown has had decent ground this season," said David Townsend, standing in for trainer David Elsworth.

"I couldn't ride Cavvies in this race last year because I had broken a collar bone," said Arnott, "then I broke it again, and a wrist as well, the week before Cheltenham, losing the Gold Cup ride. He feels a stronger horse this year and I was very impressed with him."

Cavvies Clown is likely to run next in either the Vincent O'Brien Gold Cup at Leopardstown or the Charterhouse Chase at Ascot, both next month.

Nick Gaselee was equally pleased with Bolands Cross, who had been off the course for almost a year. "I'm delighted, he ran and jumped very well," said the trainer. "He's had blood vessel trouble and a bit of leg trouble as well. Now he'll probably go to Ascot for the Charterhouse Chase."

Gifford likely to opt for Midnight Count

Rain in the south yesterday has increased the chances of Midnight Count being chosen by Josh Gifford in preference to Vodkatini against Desert Orchid in the Victor Chandler Chase, the £30,000 feature at Ascot tomorrow (Michael Seely writes).

"We are still shooting in the dark," said Anton Pearson, Gifford's assistant. "But there has been quite a lot of rain in the Ascot area. Everything depends on what happens in the next 48 hours."

Pearson then corrected the general impression that Vodkatini is the preferred runner from the stable. "We have no intention of running Vodkatini if the ground is soft. We're very keen to run Midnight Count, but we won't risk him unless the going is reasonable. Under no circumstances would we run both horses."

Ascot reported that after a quarter of an inch of rain the ground was still good to firm. Dry weather was forecast for last night and this morning, but there is then the prospect of further rain.

RUGBY UNION

Red-rose pedigree bursts into bloom

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

After the disappointing meeting between Lancashire and Cheshire 18 Group, it seemed that the Roses match, plagued by an equally strong wind, was also heading for anticlimax. But Lancashire's backs showed their pedigree and earned victory by four tries and two penalties to a late try.

The Lancashire centre, Flood (chosen at full back for the northern trial), has the gift of making those around him appear magnificent; it is doubtful if anyone else can so effectively exploit the brilliance of his partner, Clift. Bingham had a disappointing game for Yorkshire but it is hard to shine in the centre if your halves are played out of the match.

Judd expected a good season after their highly successful tour of the United States and they have not been disappointed. They have won all 14 matches. Perhaps their most notable victories were against Campion (22-17), Tonbridge (12-7) and John Fisher (13-4). This success has been achieved despite the loss of Wright with glandular fever and Fitzmaurice with a broken collarbone.

RGS High Wycombe's win over Tiffin (9-4) was close. Tiffin, who have lost only two matches this winter, were trailing by a penalty well into the second half when a try by Beal, converted from touch by Ayton, settled the issue.

King's, Macclesfield, who have had a good season, were taxingly extended by Arnold before they won 16-14, all Arnold's points coming from pushover tries. King's also scored three tries to scrape home by the odd conversion.

Warwickshire have made a marvellous showing at 16 Group level. They had won five out of five when they met Lancashire, whom they defeated 30-7, and it was the only match Lancashire had lost.

After their successful tour of the British Isles last year, St Andrew's Scots School from Buenos Aires report 13 wins out of 16 in their domestic season, including a 27-6 victory over Cheltenham College, who were touring. St Andrew's won the schools 15-a-side tournament and have been particularly well served by their top points scorer, Galperin.

GYMNASTICS

The time has come for Sands

By Peter Aykroyd

Alitia Sands, of Coventry, should carry off the British rhythmic senior championship at Bletchley tomorrow, following the retirement of Lisa Black, the title holder.

Not only was Sands national champion in 1987, but her main rival, Viva Seifert, is training in Bulgaria. Furthermore, Sands is on form: she won all four apparatus titles — rope, hoops, ball and ribbon — last month.

Her main rivals among the eight competitors are two promising club colleagues: Joanne Bisley, last year's bronze medal winner, and Joanne Rose, the 1988 junior champion, but Gabrielle Yorath, of Leeds, could spoil Coventry's hopes of a medal sweep.

For the juniors, Claire Jones, another Coventry gymnast, is the top qualifier.

These championships will be the last, for several developments, including a national development plan and proficiency scheme, come into effect this year.

STUDENT SPORT

Polytechnic maintaining the winning tradition of Oxford

By Mark Herbert

Mention Oxford as an institution of sporting excellence and the university springs to mind. On Wednesday, however, Oxford Polytechnic was one result away from a clean sweep in the British Polytechnics Sports Association's eighth-finals, and has headed the body's national rankings, which are based on performances in all sports, for most of the season.

The rugby union team earned the dubious privilege of a home quarter-final against the holders, Wales, on January 25, by beating Central London 38-0. A Niall Smith try, converted by Gavin Alpe, was all that separated the sides at half-time, but second-half touchdowns for Mark Evans, Will Reynolds, Andy Smythe and three from winger John Hunt, who came on as a first-half replacement, plus another four conversions by Alpe, took Oxford clear.

The sides observed a minute's silence before the match in tribute to Marc Thompson, the first-team flanker, who was killed in a skiing accident in the French Alps earlier in the month. A memorial fund will be set up for the player, who was last season voted the polytechnic's clubman of the year. Oxford were beaten 32-3 by Wales at the same stage last season, but feel they are stronger this year.

The men's hockey team drew 0-0 with Central London, but won 5-4 on penalty flicks; the netball players squeezed past North East London 36-33; the women's volleyball team overcame City 3-0; and the squash teams both won, the men 5-0 against Thames and the women in a walkover against City.

Thames managed a win against Oxford in the women's hockey, earning an away tie against Brighton. Yvonne Manley scored in the second minute, and Bates on the hour. Also in the women's hockey, Sheffield overwhelmed Teesside 18-0. The scorers were: Walwin (5), Pavlou (4), Pickup (4), Owen (4) and Thomas. Sheffield's men scored heavily too, beating the same opponents 7-0. Crutchley and Maddocks scored twice each.

Oxford had to postpone their eighth-final matches in December because the date scheduled by the BPSA fell in the midst of their examinations. "It's not much of a reward to have to try to field teams in January when we're not prepared," Mark Dodwell, the polytechnic's sports secretary, said. The polytechnic will ask the BPSA to consider holding the eighth-finals a fortnight earlier in future.

North London's footballers earned a quarter-final tie at Portsmouth following their 1-0 win over Thames on Wednesday. Lux, a mature student, scored midway into the second half of an even game.

BPSA CHAMPIONSHIPS: Quarter-finals (in draw order; matches to be played on January 25): Football: Liverpool v Sunderland or Trent; Hatfield v Brighton; Portsmouth v N London; Leeds or Newcastle v Lancashire. Rugby union: Liverpool v Sheffield; Oxford v Wales; Bristol v Thames; Leeds v Wolverhampton. Hockey: Men: Stafford v Newcastle or Trent; Oxford v Portsmouth; Kingston v Thames; Sheffield v Birmingham. Women: Liverpool v Newcastle or Leeds; Hatfield v Portsmouth; Brighton v Thames; Sheffield v Stafford. Netball: Liverpool v Newcastle; Oxford v Bristol; Brighton v Hatfield; Leeds v N Stafford.

MERCEDES-BENZ

MERCEDES BENZ 190E 2.3
16 valve, smoke silver, Sept '88, 1,900 miles, Electric windows, electric sunroof, central locking/remote alarm, Pioneer radio/cassette/cd, ABS,
£30,000.
Tel: 01-952 8671.

260 E
March 87. 21,000 miles. Smoke silver. Air conditioned, cruise control. ABS. FSH. Blaupunkt stereo. Remote controlled alarm. 1 private owner. £20,500.
(0895) 676261 (H). 01-428 4850 (O).

500 SL Sport 85 model. Ivory. ABS, cruise, alloys, hard top/soft top (never used) full Mercedes history. An exceptional example. Must be seen £26,950. Tel: (0628681) 2442 or 0860 206374. T

MERCEDES 190E Jan 88. 3,000 mls, met/gold, elec wind. s/roof, mud flaps, o/l/gauge, over carpets. Completely as new. Offers over £16,000. No time wasters. Tel: (0564474) 204

MERCEDES 190E. Auto 1985 (B), white, immaculate, 34,500 miles. Long Tax/MOT. FSH, extras inc Panasonic stereo, elec roof. Quick sale at £11,350. Tel:(0472) 828926

MERCEDES 420 SE. Imperial brown, first registered Oct 28th 1987. One owner/driver. 9,000 miles. Tel (0929) 422224.

COLLECTORS CARS

TRIUMPH ROADSTER 1800, 1948
A beautiful restored example, over £11,000 of receipts available, near concours condition. Cream inside & out. Leather upholstery. Imported from the Sun Belt of the USA. RHD. Complete with original log-book & history. £10,950
Tel: 021-453 9812 or 021-328 5189 (week days).

EXCALIBUR SS PHAETON
1977. Hand/soft tops. 454 CI V8, automatic power and tilt steering, metallic racing green with white leather interior piped in green, green carpets piped in white, white soft top piped in green. This is the car with concealed telescopic aerials, rearing from each side of the bonnet and twin wheel mounts in the wings. Real eye catcher, left hand drive Florida car. Bargain winter price
£16,995.
Tel:01-440 6776 (anytime)

E TYPE
1972, V12, fixed head, immaculate condition, new pirelli tyres, Indigo blue, 2 owners only, auto recent engine overhaul and service. Brand new panasonic stereo system, Car telephone included, Low mileage. £20,500. No trade.
Tel: (073081) 3497

CITROEN DS 23 Pallas EFI hydraulic, metallic brown, leather, 18k, as new. £9,250. DS 21 Pallas hydraulic blue, velour, 36,000 miles. £7,250. Tel. (0602) 262663.

FERRARI 330 GTC ltd. red, wire borrani, concours cond. £130,000 Tel 0737 813420.

MG Sports, 1930, superb condition. Investment at £7,995. Cody Cars. Tel (02252) 646140 or (0836) 633107.

ROVER 3.5ltr Coupe 1975. Genuine and original car. Offers, further details Banbury (02969 750026.

TRIUMPH STAG 1977. 19,000 miles. 1 owner from new, manual, O/D, BRG, virtually concours condition. £7,950 ono. Tel: 021 706 0012.

ASTON MARTIN DB8 - See Performance Cars Section. Tel 01 724 9201.

COLLECTORS CARS WANTED

LAST enthusiast requires Pagoda roof mercedes 230, 250 or 280 SL to keep in the manner it deserves. Must be original with history. A little work won't be objected to. Tel. (0626) 250444.

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY AUTHORISED DEALERS

BRISTOL MOTOR CO
55 Victoria Street Bristol BS1 6AW
0272 266421
APPROVED USED

JANUARY 88 Bentley Turbo R, silver, red hide, 1 owner, 12,000 miles, £95,750.
OCTOBER 87 Rolls Royce Silver Spirit, silversand, beige hide, one owner, 7,000 miles, £69,950.
NOVEMBER 86 Rolls Royce Silver Spirit, dark oyster, mushroom hide, 1 owner, 26,000 miles. £57,500.
MAY 1980 Silver Shadow II, Willow gold, champagne hide, 34,000 miles, £26,250.

ROLLS ROYCE & BENTLEY

ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT.
November 1985. Light Oyster. Mushroom trim piped Red. Ride knee roll, fascia and head lining. 27,000 miles. Serviced at Crewe. Full history. £48,950.
Tel: Ryders 051 922 7585.

1987 BENTLEY TURBO R
24,000 miles, Charcoal with Magnolia leather upholstery, mobile carphone fitted, (new car arriving February).
Call 0224 722888 for further particulars.

SHADOW II
1978 48,000 miles. Exc. cond. Chauffeur driven & maintained.
0952 604415.

TURBO R '87
D Metallic blue, cream hide with blue piping. 36,000 miles. 1 owner.
Offers over £75,000
Tel: (0276) 681594 or 0836534754 (mobile)

1979 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow II. Carrs+ Agua. Magnolia piped blue interior. FSH. £19,600. Tel: 0234 713871 T.

LHD TURBO R 7/1/87. Blue. 11,000m. FSH. Extras. As new. £87,000 Tel: 01-434 3634

ROLLS ROYCE Spirit in Vermilion Red. Magnolia hide with red piping. A beautiful car. Full service history. £38,950. Tel 01-459 291202.

SHADOW II '77 willow gold, unmarked magnolia hyde piped brown. 48,000 miles. FSH, ex cond. £16,950. Tel. Esher, Surrey (0372) 842292 anytime.

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY WANTED

All models, late, low mileage, history. Executive cars. Tel (021) 200 1289. (021) 454 7771.

BENTLEY T1/2 or S. must be concours, wanted immediately. Capps. Tel (0787) 313137.

MOTORS LEASING

VEHICLE LEASING
★DON'T BUY LEASE★
*Any make or model
*Competitive rates
*2, 3 or 4 yr plans available
*Business users
Call for a quotation
01 831 4264
MOBILE CITY

TOYOTA
Lease or Contract Hire
Supra 3.0i Turbo ... £195pw
Celica GT Turbo ... £92pw
Camry Exec Auto ... £76pw
Camry Exec ... £61pw
MR2 Turbo ... £89pw
Corolla Exec Auto ... £59pw
Corolla GTi Auto ... £54pw
KASSOP TOYOTA
291 Willesden Lane NW2
01 459 8866 7 days

MERCEDES BENZ
DISCOUNT ON ALL MODELS SOME MODELS FROM STOCK
Tel: TWC Ltd
01 493 6563
Weekend 0860 827729

PERFORMANCE CARS

MASERATI BITURBO COUPE
E Reg. L.H.D., first reg California 1988. Absolutely immaculate. F.S.H. Maserati Red with tan hide interior, rear spoiler kit, air con, P.A.S., stereo etc, low mileage.
£28,950 ono or part exchange considered.
Tel: Home (0787) 211469 Office (0787) 211474.

SAPPHIRE COSWORTH
October '88. 3,000 miles. 1 lady owner. Full Remote Control Scorpion Alarm System. Extra Cover on Warranty 36,000 miles or 3 years. £21,200.
WILL SELL FOR £18,855.
Tel (0836) 622972.

ASTON MARTIN DB6 - Late 1965 model. Extensive history. Mechanically excellent. Beautiful car, finished in light blue/navy. £45,000. Tel 01 724 9201 or (0860) 280219.

CORVETTES American Car Centre. London's only authorised Corvette Dealer. 01 849 3161.

D RS6 RS Cosworth, choice of colours from only £13,480. (0998) 62084/0836 729414. T.

FERRARI 308 GTS 1986 25,000 miles, red/magnolia, £47,500 ono Tel: (0353) 862916 home 293 164 work.

FERRARI 208 - GTB QV (A). Rosso Red. Air con, desp speaker, servo. 36,000 miles. F/S/N. Truly a lovely motor car. £48,995. Telday (021364) 8488 or eves (0543) 432967.

FERRARIS all types. LHD. Extraordinary prices. Any time. 010 39 6221 400333 fax 400339

FORD SIERRA Cosworth Oct 88, black, 24,000 miles. £16,990. Tel. 01-979 4897 evening.

JAGUAR XJS V12 1988. F reg. black with magnolia hide, all extras. 2,000 miles only. As new. £32,000. Tel (0353) 662141/(0353) 664633 (Evenings).

LAMBORGHINI Countach QV '86 (C), 7,000m, white/white, Whsp, FSH, LHD. £95,000 Tel: 01-431 3531

LANCIA Delta Integrale 1988 White 23,000 miles. Every extra. Radio. FSH. £12,600 ono. Tel: 01-341 4179

LOTUS Esprit HC, '87 (D). Red, half sand hide. Clarion stereo, 16,000 miles, 5 mths warranty, F.S.H., immaculate condition. £17,250. Tel: 01/228 7880/64

LOTUS Elite 2.2 Black/Ivory Nov. 1988. Sheer. Good extra condition. £24,990. (0582) 8723265 T

1989 (reg) Testarossa.
Rosso corsa-magnolia. Delivery mileage.
EPOA.
1989 model 328 GTS.
Rosso corsa-magnolia. Delivery mileage.
EPOA.
Tel 01-863 0733.
SUN (0836) 617535.
CARSCAN

LAMBURGHINI COUNTACH 5,000 QV
1987 D. White with red hide, rear wing, CD player. 11,000 miles. Full Portman history. Stunning. £130,000.
Tel: (0865) 862008 (Sunday) or (0865) 714832 weekdays. T

LOTUS Excel SE auto. E reg. red/sand leather. 10,000 miles. FSH. alloys. air con. E/W. stereo etc. Unmarked. £18,750. Tel: (0823) 843979 T.

LOTUS ESPRIT TURBO - Black. 1988. full leather interior. sun roof. air con. 10,500 miles. £17,850. Sale due to new company car. Full all parts Lotus warranty for 6 months. Contact Mr Burn on 01-570 5613.

MAZDA 323i, 4X4, turbo. silver. One year old. 7,000 miles. Perfect. £8,800. (0872) 560163

NEW FERRARI Testarossa. Americas spec. white with satin hyde. 600 km. £79,000. Tel (02222) 224737 or (0860) 206626.

PERFORMANCE/Sports/Classic cars required for cash, will travel. Tel: (0582) 872326

PORSCHE Spider GRP replica. 1966. silver. red interior. superb. £7,995. Cody Cars. (02522) 646140/(0836) 633107.

RED CORVETTE 1984, coupe. 32,000 st, fully loaded, immac cond. £16,900. (0923) 778011.

RS Cosworth - 1987, white, alarm, extra cover to 1990, superb. £14,980. Tel: (0934) 615399.

RS 500 Cosworth. black. 4,200 miles, FSH, C ltd, warranty, as new, one owner, £28,000. Surrey 0372 374298.

RS COSWORTH. D reg. genuine 8,000 miles. FSH. showroom condition. probably the best example available. £17,000. Tel (0363) 642161/(0363) 664633 (Evenings).

TOYOTA SUPRA 3.0i auto. D reg. white. showroom condition. £13,700. Tel: 0843 74723.



Send your Valentine a witty message and we could send you to Paris.

Send your loved one a witty message this Valentine's Day and you'll both be laughing. Laughing all the way to Paris – the Capital of romance.

The wittiest Valentine message printed in The Times on February 14 will win a weekend for two in Paris, courtesy of Thomson Citybreaks.

Simply fill in the coupon below and send it with your witty message on a separate piece of paper – together with your cheque/postal order, or quote your Access/Visa/Diners/Amex card. If you prefer, telephone 01-481 4000.

The minimum message is three lines at £17.25 (inclusive of VAT). Additional lines cost only £5.75 (inc. VAT) each – there are approximately 4 words to a line. Bonne chance!

Name
Address
Postcode Tel No
Cheque/postal orders should be made payable to: Times Newspapers Ltd or debit my: Visa/Amex/Diners/Access with the sum of £
Card No
Expiry Date
Today's Date
Please Print Name
Send this coupon with your remittance to: The Times, PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BL.
All messages must be received no later than 5pm Friday 10th February 1989. All Valentine messages must be pre-paid. We reserve the right to omit an advertisement at our discretion.

TIMES CLASSIFIED — CITYBREAKS Thomson

Brave Defender to cap field day for Henderson

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Lambourn trainer Nicky Henderson stands a good chance of taking Ascot by storm today by landing a treble with Freestone (1.0), Mr Gossip (2.5) and Brave Defender (3.40).

Freestone will be the day's banker for many in the Silver Doctor Novices' Hurdle following that eye-catching first run under National Hunt rules behind the smart Voyage Sans Retour at Cheltenham 11 days ago.

Having won a couple of races on the Flat at York for Dick Hern last summer, Freestone was understandably quite expensive when he was sold by Tattersalls at Newmarket in the autumn.

However, following intensive tuition at Henrietta Knight's renowned indoor school, Freestone's Cheltenham run suggests that the 34,000 guineas outlay by Raymond Tooth may well turn out to be a bargain.

While Freestone is likely to start at short odds to beat Es-Port and Ikdam, his travelling companions Mr Gossip and Brave Defender will start at more attractive prices to win their races, which are both open handicaps.

I particularly like the look of Brave Defender, who is napped to win the Teal and Green Handicap Hurdle.

Since doing followers of this column a good turn at Plumpton in early December, Brave Defender has suffered from a bout of ringworm but Henderson reports that Brave Defender is now well again and working with great gusto.

His Plumpton win suggests he is an improved horse this season and he is obviously completely at ease on the current fast ground.

In contrast, Mr Gossip would prefer it a little softer underfoot when he contests the PML Handicap Hurdle. For conditions were quite testing when he scored by four lengths at Chepstow last month.

However, he was far from disgraced on ground similar to today's at Kempton on Boxing Day when he failed by three lengths to give 7lb to Master Barn, whose connections have significantly declined a rematch.

With the Dragon Master, Brookmount, Nos Na Gaoithe and Sabin Du Loir all standing their ground for the Thunder and Lightning Novices' Chase, visitors to the Berkshire track are guaranteed a fine spectacle.

As Sabin Du Loir would have made short work of his rivals over hurdles, he also ought to do so over fences, having won his first steeplechase by 30 lengths at Newton Abbot on Boxing Day.

Pukka Major can give former leading amateur rider Tim Thomson Jones his first success as a trainer by capturing the Bucktail Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Chase while Comeragh King, representing the formidable Jimmy Fitzgerald-Mark Dwyer combination, will attract plenty of support to win the Green Highlander Handicap Chase now that he has shown that he gets three miles, albeit round a course as sharp as Edinburgh.

Fitzgerald should also be on the mark on that Scottish track with **Dual Venture** (12.45) and **Jane's Delight** (3.15). However, Sip Of Orange, his runner in the Cowthorpe Handicap Hurdle at Wetherby, may not be able to cope with Sawdust Jack.

The most interesting race on the Yorkshire track is the Whixley Novices' Hurdle which features a clash between Rifle Range, who has won his last two races by wide margins, and the unbeaten Solicitor's Choice.

Rifle Range is preferred as his Haydock form received a timely boost yesterday when Undaunted won at Southwell.



Bluff Cove, seen winning the Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot last season, returns to the course for today's PML Handicap Hurdle

ASCOT

Selections
By Mandarin

1.00 Freestone.
1.35 Pukka Major.
2.05 Mr Gossip.
2.35 Sabin Du Loir.
3.05 Comeragh King.
3.40 **BRAVE DEFENDER** (nap).

By Michael Seely
1.00 Freestone. 1.35 **PANTECHNICON** (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.35 **PANTECHNICON.**

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

Going: good to firm

1.0 SILVER DOCTOR NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,301: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

101 114 ES-PORT 17 (D,BF,F,G) (R Lawton) J Edwards 11-7 .... T Morgan 94
102 04B14 IKDAM 17 (D,S) (LBI Law Ltd) R Holder 11-3 .... N Coleman 91
103 FU0 CUVA 14 (B Tetley) S Dow 11-0 .... R Guest —
104 2 FREESTONE 11 (R Tooth) N Henderson 11-0 .... J Osborne ● 99
105 0F IL PADRINO UNO 11 (Mrs L Wilson) R Frost 11-0 .... J Frost —
106 MR GEE (M Ferrett) R Curtis 11-0 .... R Goldstein —

BETTING: 5-6 Freestone, 3-1 Es-Port, 4-1 Ikdam, 16-1 Mr Gee, 20-1 Cuva, Il Padrino Uno.

1987: RECORD FLIGHT 11-0 B Powell (33-1) G Ham 13 ran

FORM FREESTONE, a useful stayer on the Flat, shaped promisingly on his hurdling bow at Cheltenham (2m, good to firm) when 2l 2nd to Voyage Sans Retour. Likely to improve.
ES-PORT, a 10l winner, from Hot Company at Towcester (2m, good to firm) in November, followed up with a 30l defeat of Letterassie at Doncaster (2m 4f, good) in December; mistake last when 9l 4th to San Giovanni at Kempton (2m 4f, good to firm).
IKDAM won penultimate start by 8l from Shaston at Uttoxeter (2m4 f, soft); not discredited when 21½l 4th to the useful Enemy Action last time at Chepstow (2m, soft). CUVA completed the course for the first time when a well-beaten 8th to Highland Bud at Newbury (2m 100yd, good to firm).
Selection: FREESTONE (nap)

1.35 BUCKTAIL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,231: 2m) (9 runners)

201 52FF45/ CHARCOAL WALLY 667 (CD,F,G) (J Mursell) R Hodges 10-11-13 .... W Irvine —
202 13211-2 PUKKA MAJOR 14 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Jones) T Thomson Jones 8-11-10 .... R Boucher (7) 89
203 -65325 CLAY HILL 10 (D,F,S) (G Hubbard) J Gifford 10-11-8 .... T Pinfield 89
204 100P-11 TOM CAXTON 22 (CD,G,S) (M O'Connor) J King 8-10-6 .... J Railton 86
205 430P04 PAN ARCTIC 13 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Bill) T Bill 10-10-3 .... A Charlton 80
206 146-063 MASTER VINCE 15 (D,G,S) (S Squires) J White 11-10-0 .... D Skyrme 80
207 312133 PANTECHNICON 10 (D,F,G) (D Coombs) A Barrow 9-10-0 .... P Holley (5) ● 99
208 5-0P143 PUCKA PADDY 11 (D,G) (W McKenzie-Coles) W McKenzie-Coles 12-10-0 .... I Lawrence (5) 70
209 0/-PF AUTUMN SUN 16 (S) (Miss A Cheeseman) J White 12-10-0 .... J Tuttle (7) —

Long handicap: Pantechnicon 9-13, Pucka Paddy 8-13, Autumn Sun 7-12.

BETTING: 11-4 Tom Caxton, 3-1 Pantechnicon, 9-2 Pucka Major, 5-1 Clay Hill, Master Vince, 12-1 Pan Arctic, 14-1 others.

1988: TOM CAXTON 7-10-6 C Llewellyn (11-2) J King 8 ran

FORM PANTECHNICON carried 22lb more than his allotted weight when a fine 8l 3rd to Prize Asset at Cheltenham last time (2m, good to firm); should have nothing to fear from 5th CLAY HILL (22l farther away and now a stone worse off).
CHARCOAL WALLY last ran in the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham in 1987 when a distant 5th to Pearlyman. PUKKA MAJOR made a satisfactory reappearance at Fontwell (2m 4f, good) when a head 2nd to Autumn Zulu.
TOM CAXTON followed up a 3l win over Baluchi at Bangor (2m, good) with a 1½l defeat of Breakfast Car at Lingfield (2m, good), with MASTER VINCE (11lb better off) 17l 6th.
Selection: PANTECHNICON

2.5 PML HANDICAP HURDLE (£9,318: 3m) (13 runners)

301 020-205 MRS MUCK 41 (CD,G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-13 .... S Sherwood 89
302 0/0050-1 ROBIN WONDER 18 (F,S) (A Hunt) D Elsworth 11-11-11 .... P Holley (7) 94
303 1PP0-24 BLUFF COVE 62 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (Dickins Ltd) R Hollinshead 7-11-9 .... — ● 99
304 00-1222 FOLK DANCE 8 (G,S) (BTR & B Plc) G Balding 7-11-4 .... A Charlton (4) 96
305 013-033 CHEMIST BROKER 18 (D,F,G,S) (Food Brokers Ltd) R Akehurst 9-11-2 .... I Shoemark (4) 94
306 500-225 WINTER HAVEN 27 (B,G) (J Davis) J Baker 6-11-1 .... M Williams 95
307 F2220-5 WOLLOW WILL 18 (D,F,G,S) (F Winter) C Brooks 10-11-1 .... P Scudamore 87
308 P00-231 PETER MARTIN 17 (V,D,F,G,S) (F Lee) F Lee 8-11-0 .... C Hawkins 94
309 002113 SOONER STILL 35 (F,S) (J Smith) J Edwards 5-10-11 .... T Morgan 88
310 1150-04 WINART 14 (S) (P Rodford) P Rodford 11-10-8 .... S Earle 91
311 21-0212 MR GOSSIP 18 (D,BF,G,S) (Lady Bevan) N Henderson 7-10-6 .... J White 97
312 2151-24 NECOCHEA 35 (BF,G,S) (Mrs L Hennen) N Gaselee 5-10-5 .... B Powell 92
313 0P-0022 TACHADOR 10 (S) (P Axon) R Hodges 8-10-0 .... H Davies 94

BETTING: 4-1 Mr Gossip, 5-1 Necochea, Robin Wonder, 6-1 Folk Dance, Wollow Will, 8-1 Peter Martin, Sooner Still, Tachador, 12-1 others.

1988: RUBY FLIGHT 6-9-9 D Tegg (20-1) R Eckley 17 ran

FORM PETER MARTIN put up a useful performance to defeat Blazing Walker (gave 23lb) ¾l latest start at Wetherby (3m, good) and can follow up. FOLK DANCE should reverse placings with ROBIN WONDER on 3lb better terms for a 1l defeat last time at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to firm).
MR GOSSIP was a creditable 3l 2nd to Master Barn last time at Kempton (3m, good to firm); should confirm form with 3rd CHEMIST BROKER (only 2lb better off for 20l) and WOLLOW WILL (5th). WINTER HAVEN, 1l 2nd to Buckskin's Best in a valuable handicap at Chepstow (2m 4f, soft), had much more to do when 24½l 5th to French Goblin here last time.
TACHADOR is reasonably treated on his ¾l 2nd to Lockwood Prince at Cheltenham (3m, good to firm) last time, while SOONER STILL, 8l 3rd to Garrison Savannah last time at Cheltenham, (3m, good), may struggle to confirm placings with the 4th NECOCHEA, now 4lb better off for 2l.
Selection: PETER MARTIN

2.35 THUNDER AND LIGHTNING NOVICES CHASE (£9,903: 2m) (4 runners)

401 0/BP-11 THE DRAGON MASTER 13 (D,F,G) (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 7-11-9 . G Mernagh 90
402 0600-11 BROOKMOUNT 50 (D,S) (H Pelham) J Gifford 7-11-5 .... Peter Hobbs 88
403 10-2122 NOS NA GAOITHE 34 (B,D,S) (P Green) M H Easterby 6-11-5 .... L Wyer 84
404 13P2-11 SABIN DU LOIR 18 (F,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 10-11-5 .... P Scudamore ● 99

● Sabin Du Loir will only run if there is overnight rain

BETTING: 4-5 Sabin Du Loir, 2-1 The Dragon Master, 3-1 Brookmount, 5-1 Nos Na Gaoithe.

1988: SAFFRON LORD 6-11-5 R Rowe (100-30) J Gifford 5 ran

FORM THE DRAGON MASTER showed his shock 100-1 victory at Sandown (2m 18yd, good) last month was no fluke when decisively following up by 6l from Blueberry King at Newbury (2m 160yd, good to firm). Proven on a sound surface.
BROOKMOUNT was long odds-on when running out an easy 10l winner of a three-runner race at Haydock (2m, soft) last time; earlier put up a better effort to beat NOS NA GAOITHE (same terms) by 5l at Chepstow (2m, soft). Probably better suited by some give in the ground. NOS NA GAOITHE found only the highly promising Slalom 2l too good at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good) last time but tends to produce little under pressure.
SABIN DU LOIR made a highly impressive chasing debut at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, good to soft) last month when, jumping well, accounted for Hope Cove by 30l.
Selection: SABIN DU LOIR

3.5 GREEN HIGHLANDER HANDICAP CHASE (£7,375: 3m) (8 runners)

501 6P20P-0 GAINSAY 11 (B,D,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-10 .... M Pitman 94
502 4301-10 TORSIDE 17 (D,G,S) (G Blagrove) M Pipe 10-11-8 .... P Scudamore 97
503 331-F41 COMERAGH KING 23 (D,F,G,S) (A F Budge Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 10-11-5 .... M Dwyer 93
504 P6-U2P2 MEMBERSON 11 (D,F,G,S) (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 11-10-5 .... Mr G Upton (7) ● 99
505 111-6U5 GERAMI 34 (D,F,G,S) (R McAlpine) J Edwards 9-10-3 .... W Knox 93
506 101/F11 SEAGRAM 38 (D,F,G,S) (E Parker) D Barons 9-10-0 .... P Nicholls 83
507 122024 DIRECT APPROACH 11 (CD,F,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 9-10-0 .... Peter Hobbs 92
508 1031-61 TROUT ANGLER 18 (D,F,G,S) (P Trant) Miss P O'Connor 8-10-0 .... B Powell 87

Long handicap: Seagram 9-9, Direct Approach 9-6, Trout Angler 9-4.

BETTING: 2-1 Comeragh King, 7-2 Seagram, 4-1 Memberson, Direct Approach, 6-1 Torside, 9-1 Gainsay, 12-1 Gerami, 16-1 Trout Angler.

1988: BURANNPOUR 8-11-0 G Bradley (8-1) G Balding 7 ran

FORM TORSIDE, a distant 7th to Bonanza Boy in the Welsh National at Chepstow (3m 6f, soft) is best at extreme distances; previously beat MEMBERSON (3lb better off) by 7l at Sandown (3m 5f 18yd, good) with DIRECT APPROACH a faller.
MEMBERSON, an out-and-out stayer, was a running-on 2l 2nd to Knock Hill at Cheltenham (4m, good to firm) with DIRECT APPROACH (7lb worse off) 1l 4th.
COMERAGH KING followed his fine 4½l 4th to Pegwell Bay in a listed event at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good) with an easy 30l defeat of Dorinicum at Edinburgh (3m, good to firm).
SEAGRAM faces a stiffer task than when accounting for Numerate by 4l at Leicester (3m, good) last time out.
Selection: COMERAGH KING

3.40 TEAL AND GREEN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,699: 2m) (17 runners)

601 0/123/0 FEDERAL TROOPER 34 (D,F,S) (P Bonner) Mrs J Pitman 8-12-0 .... M Bowlby —
602 220/2-03 SPECIAL VINTAGE 18 (D,G,S) (J Murdoch) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-12-0 .... M Dwyer 91
603 10/5000- PROTECTION 335 (D,G) (H Joel) A Turnell 7-12-0 .... P Scudamore 86
604 0P-24B4 INTUITION 13 (D,S) (A Spence) R Akehurst 7-12-0 .... — ● 99
605 000-145 HEART OF STONE 18 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Maynard) R Akehurst 7-11-12 .... I Shoemark (4) 96
606 245-FP0 WAHIBA 11 (D,G) (J Brown) R Holder 5-11-11 .... N Coleman —
607 51146-0 WILLSFORD 41 (D,G,S) (A Kaplan) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-4 .... M Pitman 94
608 6-02311 AFARISTOUN 13 (D,F,G,S) (H Kaye) J Edwards 5-11-2 .... T Morgan 94
609 631-035 HAMPER 37 (D,G) (H Joel) J Gifford 6-11-1 .... Peter Hobbs 91
610 5-53122 CELTIC BOB 11 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Cooper) O O'Neill 9-10-12 .... V Slattery (7) 96
611 13511-1 BRAVE DEFENDER 31 (D,F,G) (Lady Cohen) N Henderson 5-10-9 .... J Osborne 92
612 P631-60 WESTERN DANDY 11 (D,F,S) (Mrs D Fletcher) N Gaselee 6-10-8 .... A Adams (4) 89
613 6-F5001 PIRACY 18 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Jones) Mrs D Haine 5-10-5 .... G Mernagh 94
614 030-400 GANOON 18 (D,S) (Mrs R Morris) J Jenkins 6-10-4 .... M Richards 94
615 2/16410- KNOCKENNIS 424 (D,F,G) (B Lewis) R Lee 6-10-3 .... B Dowling 93
616 10P/00 PRYING PARSONS 11 (G) (R Wright) J Fox 8-10-2 .... S Moore —
617 05-0602 GOODWYNS LAD 11 (D,S) (Mrs M Cornish) A Barrow 5-10-0 .... B Powell 96

BETTING: 11-4 Brave Defender, 7-2 Afaristoun, 9-2 Special Vintage, 6-1 Intuition, 8-1 Hamper, 10-1 Celtic Bob, 12-1 Heart Of Stone, 14-1 others.

1988: JAMESMEAD 7-10-7 G Bradley (9-1) D Elsworth 14 ran

FORM SPECIAL VINTAGE stayed on well when 5l 3rd to Speckyfoureyes (rec 32lb) at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good). HEART OF STONE runs off the same mark as when beating Lyphento 1l at Fontwell (2m 2f, good) on his seasonal debut but may prefer more give in the ground.
AFARISTOUN, not entirely genuine, attempts to complete a treble; last time beat Grey Salute by a short head at Newbury (2m 100yd, good to firm) with INTUITION 40l 4th. CELTIC BOB, a winner at Southwell (2m, soft) earlier in the season, was caught close home and beaten ¾l by Domarc at Cheltenham (2m, good to firm) last time.
BRAVE DEFENDER made a pleasing seasonal debut when accounting for Always Dangerous, a winner since, by ¾l at Plumpton (2m, good to firm) and may improve, while PIRACY was a well-backed favourite when awarded the race at Huntingdon (2m 100yd, good to soft) last time having been a hampered ½l 2nd to Zagazig.
Selection: CELTIC BOB

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
M H Easterby	7	22	31.8
D Elsworth	13	65	20.0
M Pipe	7	37	18.9
N Henderson	10	56	17.9
J Gifford	18	113	15.9
R Hodges	4	26	15.4

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Peter Hobbs	8	29	27.6
M Bowlby	3	17	17.6
P Scudamore	18	108	16.7
M Dwyer	3	20	15.0
B Powell	8	61	13.1
S Sherwood	7	58	12.1

WETHERBY

Selections
By Mandarin

1.00 Fountaincourt.
1.30 St Gabriel.
2.05 Rifle Range.
2.35 Conclusive.
3.05 Sawdust Jack.
3.35 Rockmartin.
4.10 Blakes Son.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.35 Conclusive.

Going: good

1.0 TOCKWITH SELLING HURDLE (£1,044: 2m) (9 runners)

1 4-00540 IZADYAR 11 (D,S) (R Johnson) G Moore 5-11-7 .... S Turner (4) 96
2 422-063 FOUNTAINCOURT 13 (B,BF) (Full Circle Thoroughbreds Plc) N Tinkler 5-11-3 G McCourt 93
3 35-4434 ALTAR POINT 39 (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-10-12 .... A Merrigan ● 99
4 220 KIRKBY FLYER 18 (D Gill) R Whitaker 5-10-12 .... R Beggan 88
5 0 BARATIJO 6 (B) (T Hainsworth) G Kelly 4-10-5 .... S Harris (7) —
6 06 CO-TACK 16 (D Walsh) J Mulhall 4-10-5 .... J O'Gorman (7) —
7 P I'M STILL STANDING 18 (Mrs N Hebblethwaite) J Dooler 4-10-5 .... C Dennis (4) —
8 KING OF ARAGON 86F (C Sullivan) F Durr 4-10-5 .... S Woods (4) —
9 00 SIR EDWARD 18 (D McKenzie) R Bastiman 4-10-5 .... G Bradley —

BETTING: 9-4 Foutaincourt, 7-2 Altar Point, 9-2 Kirkby Flyer, 5-1 Izadyar, 7-1 Co-Tack, 12-1 Sir Edward, 14-1 King Of Aragon, 25-1 others.

1988: NO CORRESPONDING MEETING

1.30 COLLINGHAM NOVICES CHASE (£1,931: 2m 50yd) (2 runners)

1 151/22-2 ST GABRIEL 16 (G,S) (T Tate) T Tate 8-11-1 .... G Bradley ● 99
2 056663 WARWICK SUITE 10 (V,G,S) (P Davies) M Naughton 7-11-1 .... P Harte (4) 68

BETTING: 1-2 St Gabriel, 6-4 Warwick Suite.

2.5 WHIXLEY NOVICES HURDLE (£1,268: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 0-211 RIFLE RANGE 29 (D,S) (C Murphy) Mrs M Dickinson 6-12-0 .... R Beggan ● 99
2 11-1 SOLICITOR'S CHOICE 16 (D,F,S) (A Sugare) H Wharton 6-11-7 .... T Reed 93
3 10-0 BRADWALL 34 (S) (G Barlow) G Barlow 5-11-0 .... R Stronge 83
4 0-60 GAELIC CHERRY 51 (Anne Duchess of Westminster) R Francis 6-11-0 .... C Cowley —
5 02-1044 HAVERTHWAITE 53 (F) (Gymcrak Thoroughbred Plc) M H Easterby 7-11-0 .... R Marley 76
6 0- PARK SLAVE 286 (Mrs V Jackson) Mrs V Jackson 7-11-0 .... Mrs V Jackson —
7 600 SLOSHED 16 (J Hanson) W A Stephenson 5-11-0 .... A Merrigan —
8 MISS TIMBER TOPPER (B Riley & Son Ltd) P Blockley 5-10-9 .... R Crank —
9 00-0 POPPING ON 63 (J Turner) J Turner 5-10-9 .... S Turner (4) —
10 21205 RUBYDORA 13 (S) (S Wright) M H Easterby 5-10-9 .... D Dutton —

BETTING: 5-4 Rifle Range, 6-4 Solicitor's Choice, 8-1 Haverthwaite, 12-1 Sloshed, Rubydora, 16-1 Bradwall, 20-1 others.

2.35 KESWICK HANDICAP CHASE (£2,364: 3m 100yd) (6 runners)

1 221136 JODY'S BOY 18 (B,C,F,G,S) (R Swiers) R Swiers 8-11-11 .... Mr S Swiers (4) 97
2 211502 GREEN GORSE 18 (CD,G,S) (S Lycett Green) N Crump 9-11-1 .... P Harte (4) ● 99
3 461UF1 CONCLUSIVE 11 (D,F,S) (Richard Shaw) G Richards 10-11-0 (5ex) .... N Doughty 96
4 36P-53U THE WILK 37 (CD,F,G) (F Scotto) W A Stephenson 10-10-12 .... J O'Gorman (7) 97
5 P0P ITS A CAPPER 8 (B,F) (J Turner) J Turner 11-10-0 .... S Turner (4) —
6 F5-313P RATH WONDER 36 (F) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) R Francis 8-10-0 .... L Harvey 89

Long handicap: Its A Capper 9-8, Rath Wonder 9-4.

BETTING: 7-4 Conclusive, 11-4 Green Gorse, 9-2 Jodys Boy, 5-1 The Wilk, 14-1 Rath Wonder, 20-1 Its A Capper.

3.5 COWTHORPE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,240: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

1 140-015 SAWDUST JACK 18 (C,BF,S) (S Brewer) M W Easterby 5-12-1 .... G Bradley 96
2 15142/P SIP OF ORANGE 18 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Haggie) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-9 .... J Hayes (7) —
3 14-0002 BEAKER 10 (V,S) (G Lowe) M Naughton 9-10-10 .... P Harte (4) ● 99
4 000421 MISTS OF TIME 8 (F,G) (J Noden) C Vernon Miller 8-10-8 (6ex) .... R Beggan 95
5 60-1500 EDWARD'S CORNER 9 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Dooler) J Dooler 11-10-5 .... S Turner (4) 98
6 F46-053 AMBERGATE 9 (D,F) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 8-10-0 .... Mr K Johnson (7) 88

Long handicap: Ambergate 9-12.

BETTING: 5-2 Mists Of Time, 3-1 Sawdust Jack, 7-2 Sip Of Orange, 9-2 Beaker, 8-1 Ambergate, 12-1 Edwards Corner.

3.35 WIKE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,343; 2m 4f 100yd) (5 runners)

1 3301/0- COTTAGE LEAS 434 (D,G,S) (N Hartas) M Ellerby 10-11-13 .... W Stephens (7) 90
2 56-3432 ROCKMARTIN 7 (F,S) (M D M Racing Limited) C Thornton 7-11-9 .... S Turner 90
3 2F464-0 MR CHRIS 39 (G,S) (C Liveras) M Naughton 10-11-5 .... P Harte ● 99
4 214343 BELLA BANUS 9 (G,S) (R Stephenson) W A Stephenson 7-11-0 .... J O'Gorman 80
5 054645 KERSIL 9 (D,G,S) (J Swiers) J Swiers 12-10-12 .... — 86

BETTING: 7-4 Rockmartin, 5-2 Bella Banus, 4-1 Mr Chris, 7-1 Kersil, 16-1 Cottage Leas.

4.10 HEALAUGH NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,360: 2m) (10 runners)

1 12 SMART PERFORMER 9 (D,BF,S) (R Gomersall) N Tinkler 11-4 .... G McCourt ● 99
2 U00 BAKER'S LAMB 11 (L Baker) B Richmond 10-10 .... — 80
3 BECKWITH 94F (NTC (Racing) Limited) M Naughton 10-10 .... G Bradley —
4 0 BLAKES SON 6 (BF) (A Fawcett) M W Easterby 10-10 .... R Beggan —
5 633 EJAY HAITCH 17 (BF) (Mrs E Handley) H Wharton 10-10 .... P Harte (4) 98
6 6 GALLANT GESTURE 32 (J Short) K Morgan 10-10 .... A Webb 78
7 GENAIR 91F (N Firth) G Moore 10-10 .... S Turner (4) —
8 04 MARRADONG BROOK 17 (Lord Cadogan) N Crump 10-10 .... N Doughty 98
9 0 ROYAL MILE 46 (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 10-10 .... A Merrigan —
10 30 SOUTH CROSS 29 (W Green) G Moore 10-10 .... R Marley 85

BETTING: 9-4 Smart Performer, 3-1 Blake's Son, 7-2 Ejay Haitch, 6-1 Marradong Brook, 8-1 Genair, 10-1 Gallant Gesture, 12-1 Beckwith, 14-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
P Blockley	3	12	25.0
Mrs M Dickinson	11	51	21.6
J Fitzgerald	23	114	20.2
M H Easterby	31	154	20.1
G Richards	18	98	18.4
R Francis	3	17	17.6

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
C Cowley	3	5	60.0
P Harte	5	24	20.8
G Bradley	10	60	16.7
T Reed	5	32	15.6
R Crank	3	26	11.5
Mr S Swiers	3	27	11.1

THE TIMES RACING SERVICE
Live commentary
and classified results
Call 0898 500 123
Mandarin's Form Guide
and rapid results
Call 0898 100 123
Calls cost 25p (off peak) and 38p (standard & peak) per minute inc VAT

Moment of truth as Waley-Cohen takes on the best

By Paul Wheeler

Robert Waley-Cohen hopes to show at Ascot today that there is still room for the Corinthian spirit in National Hunt racing.

The Banbury permit holder, who has a string of just four, runs The Dragon Master in the Thunder And Lightning Chase against highly-regarded novices from three of the country's leading stables.

The Dragon Master was bought by Waley-Cohen at the Ballsbridge sales for 22,000 guineas in 1985.

After being broken and hunted he made a quiet debut, as a five-year-old, in a National Hunt flat race at Warwick and was put away for the season.

Last season promised much but produced little. The Dragon Master was brought down at the first on his reappearance in a hunter chase at Towcester and eight days later, in a similar event at Warwick, he was pulled up.

Diagnosed as suffering from an internal condition, he was roughed-off for the season.

Not surprisingly, then, the gelding was sent off at 100-1 when he began his novice chasing career at Sandown last month but he produced one of the surprise results of the season to beat the odds-on favourite Southernair.

Waley-Cohen had retained his faith in The Dragon Master throughout and Sandown held no fears for him. "I wanted to go to one of the big tracks because you get very small fields in novice chases and I knew he jumped fantastically. It was only because he was trained by someone that the bookmakers didn't think of as training horses that he started at 100-1."

The trainer had also taken heart from The Dragon Master's performances on the gallops at John Webber's nearby yard. "We worked the horse twice at John's with his horse, Auntie Dot, who won five races last season and has won twice this term. He worked amazingly well."

George Mernagh, who partnered The Dragon Master at Sandown, was again in the saddle when the gelding followed up at Newbury and Waley-Cohen is full of praise for Webber's stable jockey.

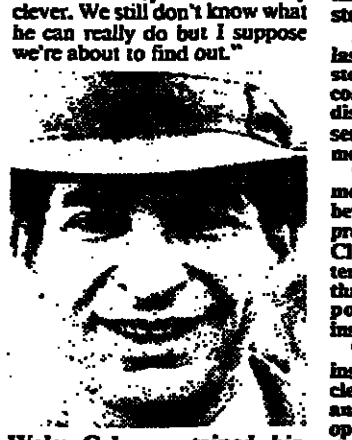
"At Sandown, George gave him a beautiful ride which you'd be pleased to see repeated by any jockey, on any horse, at any time. He's a horse that needs a real horseman. He's not a small jockey's ride — even a good one. George did a lot of eventing before he became a jockey, and that's really helped."

This was shown at Newbury where the horse made a bad mistake at the sixth fence, before quickening away to beat Blueberry King impressively. "He gave it a hell of a clout, but George said he jumped everything else impeccably."

As a Jockey Club member, Waley-Cohen has served as a steward at Cheltenham, Epsom, Aintree, Sandown and Warwick and on the licensing and disciplinary committees. He has also held important positions on the Horseracing Advisory Council and Amateur Riders' Association.

As far as today's race is concerned, Waley-Cohen said: "It's one of the best novice chases this season so I'm already thinking how far I might be defeated, giving them all 4lb.

"But he's very athletic, has enormous scope and is very clever. We still don't know what he can really do but I suppose we're about to find out."



Waley-Cohen: retained his faith in The Dragon Master

Stewards dismiss Dunwoody appeal

By George Rae

Richard Dunwoody's appeal against a two-day suspension for excessive use of the whip was yesterday dismissed by the disciplinary committee of the Jockey Club. The ban, which begins today, means the jockey will miss several attractive rides at Ascot.

The suspension was imposed by the Sedgefield stewards after Met Officer, trained by Michael Skinner, had finished third, beaten two heads, in the Spennymoor Handicap Chase nine days ago.

Dunwoody admitted to having hit the horse "12 or 13 times" but argued that he was getting a response from his mount. Although the horse was marked the racecourse vet did not consider it to be injured.

After the 75-minute hearing, Dunwoody described the verdict as "fair enough," but his solicitor, Matthew McCloy, added: "The disciplinary committee returned Richard's deposit (£170) so the appeal obviously was not worthless. Richard fully accepts the punishment but still feels the decision was a harsh one."

It was Dunwoody's third two-day suspension for whip misuse — following bans at Uttoxeter and Newbury — since the guidelines were introduced in March, and he was also cautioned about his whip style by the Towcester stewards in November.

Dunwoody's hearing was the last before the Jockey Club stewards meet on Monday to consider points raised at a discussion with jockeys' representatives at Cheltenham last month.

"The wording of the agreement reached at Cheltenham is before the stewards for approval," David Pipe, the Jockey Club spokesman, said yesterday. "Assuming it goes through, it will then be incorporated into the whip instructions.

"The aim is to simplify the instructions where they are unclear or may be misunderstood, and to make them easier to operate. It is primarily a question of clarification rather than fundamental change."

EDINBURGH

Selections
By Mandarin

12.45 Dual Venture. 1.15 Stromar. 1.45 Leon. 2.15 Master Vulgan. 2.45 Al Muhalhal. 3.15 Jane's Delight.

Going: good (chase); good to soft (hurdles)

12.45 DYEWATER MAIDEN HURDLE (£1,268: 2m) (15 runners)

1 4 BRILLIANT WISH 63 R Fisher 6-11-9 .... R Hodge (7)
2 /30 DUAL VENTURE 7 Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-9 D Byrne (4)
3 20- FOR THE GRAIN 305 J S Wilson 5-11-9 .... P Niven
4 FRENCH GONDOLIER 578F R Allan 5-11-9 Ger Lyons (4)
5 0-52 ROSCOE THE BRAVE 18 S Kettlewell 5-11-9 .. B Storey
6 0-PF WATERNISH POINT 60 Mrs S Bradburne 10-11-9 Mr J Bradburne
7 -000 JUST THE TICKET 18 C Booth 6-11-4 .... —
8 0-33 LOTS OF LUCK 30 J Pearce 6-11-4 .... J McLaughlin
9 0-06 MISS KAMSY 18 R Fisher 5-11-4 .... R Falsey (7)
10 SCOTCH IMP 70F D Chapman 5-11-4 .... P Dever
11 8 SWEET ERNE 9 P Monteith 7-11-4 .... D Nolan
12 33 ELEGANT STRANGER 23 M Tompkins 4-10-12 S J O'Neill
13 FURNACE MILL 72F R Allan 4-10-12 .... J K Kinane
14 64 RED PLANET 32 Denys Smith 4-10-12 .... A Orkney
15 0- GLOWING TRIBUTE 74F N Tinkler 4-10-7 .... C Swan

9-4 Roscoe The Brave, 3-1 Lots Of Luck, 9-2 Elegant Stranger, 6-1 For The Grain, 8-1 Glowing Tribute.

1.15 HOPESWATER NOVICES CHASE (£1,280: 3m) (6)

1 1-13 LE PIAT D'OR 13 (C,F) R Whitaker 8-12-0 Mr S Whitaker (7)
2 4061 THREEPLAND 7 (CD,F,G,S) R Fisher 6-12-0 .... P Niven
3 3342 DEREKS DAUGHTER 7 (F) Mrs G Reveley 9-11-9 N Smith (7)
4 -35P BALMINCELLO 70 (F,S) R Bainbridge 7-11-7 .. B Storey
5 254F LAS RAMPAS 17 Denys Smith 7-11-7 .... A Orkney
6 -03F STROMAR 9 (BF,S) J S Wilson 7-11-7 .... Ger Lyons (4)

5-4 Stromar, 5-2 Le Piat D'Or, 9-2 Threepland, 6-1 Dereks Daughter, 12-1 others.

1.45 WATCH WATER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£974: 3m) (5)

1 2516 LEON 8 (G) N Tinkler 7-12-0 .... D Sullivan
2 1614 KATES FLING 100 (G) R Fisher 6-11-11 .... R Hodge
3 0/5/6 TEMAJOJO 7 (F) J O'Neill 10-11-1 .... J Burke
4 0036 NEW KINGSGROVE 18 (V,G) P Monteith 10-10-6 L O'Hara
5 2000 DIRECT INTEREST 31 Denys Smith 6-10-0 D Crossman

4-5 Kates Fling, 7-4 Leon, 7-2 Direct Interest, 8-1 others.

2.15 WHITEADDER HANDICAP CHASE (£1,324: 2m 4f) (5)

1 0123 GOLDEN FANCY 7 (F,G,S) C Alexander 12-12-0 Ger Lyons (4)
2 -000 WORK MATE 23 (F,G) Mrs S Bradburne 10-11-11 Mr J Bradburne
3 6/3-5 STRAIGHT DOWN 9 (F,G) Mrs P Barker 12-11-6 P Farrell
4 -446 TOMMY GE 13 (D,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 10-11-4 P Dennis
5 -212 MASTER VULGAN 11 (C,F) Mrs G Reveley 10-11-2 P Niven

6-4 Master Vulgan, 9-4 Golden Fancy, 4-1 Straight Down, 6-1 Tommy Ge, 10-1 Work Mate.

2.45 FASERY NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,088: 2m) (7)

1 402 AL MUHALHAL 11 (BF) N Tinkler 11-3 .... C Swan
2 1 CAYMAN QUEEN 13 (D,S) M Tompkins 11-0 S J O'Neill
3 54 HOLDENBY 60 T Fairhurst 10-11 .... R Falsey (4)
4 00 FANTASIE IMPROMPTU 8 K Morgan 10-8 Ger Lyons (4)
5 3P ANN VALENTINE 160 G Moore 10-2 .... B Storey
6 6 LETS GO ALLEGRO 7 J S Wilson 10-2 .... A Orkney
7 304 SATURN MOON 7 (V) J S Wilson 10-2 .... P Niven

7-4 Ann Valentine, 11-4 Cayman Queen, 4-1 Al Muhalhal, 6-1 Holdenby, 8-1 Saturn Moon, 12-1 others.

3.15 WHITEWATER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,058: 2m 4f) (6)

1 1530 MIDLAND EXPRESS 17 (D,F,S) Denys Smith 6-11-10 A Orkney
2 3531 JANE'S DELIGHT 18 (G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-9 D Byrne (4)
3 0-22 COCK SPARROW 9 (B,BF) J O'Neill 5-11-5 .... P Niven
4 232 TOT OF RYE 17 M Tompkins 4-11-3 .... S J O'Neill
5 P441 PHOTINA 23 (CD,F) T Fairhurst 4-11-0 .... R Falsey (4)
6 1603 PRECIOUS MEMORIES 7 (G) D Chapman 4-10-6 Ger Lyons (4)

11-8 Jane's Delight, 5-2 Tot Of Rye, 7-2 Cock Sparrow, 5-1 Midland Express, 10-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: T Fairhurst, 1 winner from 1 runner, 100.0%; R Bainbridge, 1 from 2, 50.0%; R Whitaker, 1 from 3, 33.3%; G Moore, 5 from 17, 29.4%; Denys Smith, 5 from 18, 27.8%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 7 from 29, 24.1%.

JOCKEYS: A Orkney, 2 winners from 6 rides, 33.3%; D Byrne, 1 from 5, 20.0%; P Niven, 7 from 41, 17.1%; Mr J Bradburne, 1 from 7, 14.3%; B Storey, 3 from 25, 12.0%. (Only qualifier).

Results from two meetings

Wincanton

Going: good to soft

1.0 (2m ch) 1, HI HIGH (P Richards, 11-1); 2, How Now (M Bowlby, 11-10 fav); 3, Bendicks (G Moore, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Flag Of Truce (f), 7 Cradle Of Jazz (4th). 5 ran. NR: Maitredee. 15l, 5l, 15l. S Pattemore at Somerton. Tote: £15.50; £2.60, £1.30. DF: £6.20. CSF: £21.63.

1.30 (2m hdle) 1, STAR WONDER (R Macneice, 7-1); 2, Plover (W Hayes, 9-1); 3, Iron Glory (M Hoad, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Jack The Hiker, 11-2 Lover's Secret (4th), 8 Mundy Star (6th), Cedar Run (f), 10 Thatched Court, 12 More Glory (5th), 20 Getting Plenty, 25 Marie Baby, 33 Balkan Dancer (pu). 12 ran. Hd, 2½l, ¾l, 20l, 3l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £8.20; £3.70, £1.60, £4.30. DF: £21.70. CSF: £67.31. Tricast: £535.55. Bought in for 1,300 gns.

2.0 (2m 5f ch) 1, CAVVIES CLOWN (R Arnott, 1-2 fav); 2, Bolands Cross (B Powell, 5-2); 3, Western Sunset (H Davies, 8-1). 3 ran. 4l, 15l. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. Tote: £1.40; DF: £1.60. CSF: £1.91.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, GEORGIC (J Leach, 12-1); 2, Certain Style (S Sherwood, 5-1); 3, Romany King (J Frost, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4-6 fav Sule Run (pu), 11-2 Minim (f), 6 The Purseawarden (4th), 14 Auctioneers Moll (6th), 16 Chatty Corner, 50 Express Air, Scallytara, What Ya Call (f), Baliyanto (5th). 12 ran. 15l, 4l, hd, 15l, hd. Mrs J Pitman at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £15.70; £2.70, £1.70, £5.60. DF: £20.90. CSF: £75.83.

3.0 (3m 1f ch) 1, FENCE JUDGE (C Llewellyn, 5-4 fav); 2, Echo Sounder (H Davies, 2-1); 3, Goodman Point (J Osborne, 5-2). 3 ran. ¾l, dist. T Forster at Letcombe Bassett. Tote: £2.00; DF: £1.50. CSF: £3.53.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, PARSONS GREEN (J White, 5-2); 2, Unique New York (R Dunwoody, 6-4 fav); 3, Dandy Minstrel (M Bowlby, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Sunday For Monday (5th), 14 Border King (4th), 25 South Pool, Super Jules (bd), 33 Friday Club, 50 Samovar, 66 Barry Docks (f), Came Down (f), Fred Splendid (pu), Holworthy (pu), Kericho (6th). 14 ran. Hd, 15l, 7l, 7l, 1l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £4.00; £2.10, £1.90, £2.40. DF: £3.10. CSF: £6.53.

Placepot: £104.00.

Southwell

Going: good to soft (ch); good to firm (hdle)

12.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, RAGENS BOY (A Webb, 4-1); 2, Vulrory's Clown (G McCourt, 5-1); 3, Battlefield Band (M Brennan, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 10-11 fav Hill Street (f), 10 Sassenoco (f), 25 Incense (4th), 33 Tierenee (pu). 7 ran. 2½l, 20l, 15l. D O'Neill at Cleeve Hill. Tote: £4.40; £2.10, £2.70. DF: £13.10. CSF: £22.13.

1.15 (2m hdle) 1, MATLUB (M Dwyer, 9-2); 2, Blue Ensign (R Guest, 10-1); 3, Welsh Rose (A Jones, 11-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Westmead, 6 Alpha Bravo, 10 Beaulieu Bay (4th), 14 Rose Gardenia, 20 Beat Street (5th), Khorevo, Royal Special, Stevers (ur), Sweet Sarah Jane (pu), 33 Cold Laser (f), Honest (pu), Silver Arch (6th), Kam (pu), Media Star. 17 ran. NR: Yanbu. 2½l, 7l, 8l, 4l, 4l. Miss S Wilton at Stoke-on-Trent. Tote: £6.90; £2.60, £2.50, £1.40. DF: £12.20. CSF: £49.80. Bought in 4,000gns.

1.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, UNDAUNTED (M Pitman, 6-4); 2, Knockan Boy (C Dennis, 11-1); 3, Prince Celtic (R Bevan, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 11-10 fav Deep In The Wood (4th), 20 Harry Monk (5th), 25 Lady Tiki (pu), 33 Tannington (6th), Winterton (pu), 50 Suvamarval (f), 100 High Laws, Sunset Vine (pu), Tartan Twilight (pu), Georgie's Precious (pu), Ranee's Song (f). 14 ran. NR: Evergreen Melody. 10l, 3l, 20l, 5l, dist. Mrs J Pitman at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £2.40, £4.40. DF: £7.50. CSF: £17.84.

2.15 (3m 110yd ch) 1, KELSALE (T Pinfield, 50-1); 2, Withy Bank (L Wyer, 13-8 fav); 3, Broad Street (R Marley, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Crumpet Delite (4th), 11 Kate's Girl (6th), 11 Mad Jimmy (f), 14 Hitchcock (f) 20 Good Word (bd), 33 Bale Boy (f), 50 Battle's Town Boy (f), Cool Distinction (5th), Quiet Star (pu), Rectory Mystery, The Frozen Padre (pu). 14 ran. NR: Zeta's Lad. ¾l, 30l, dist, ¾l, 8l. G Hubbard at Woodbridge. Tote: £75.70; £15.30, £1.60, £2.90. DF: £261.20. CSF: £122.89. After a stewards inquiry the result stands.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, CALL A TRUCE (T Pinfield, 12-1); 2, Campsie Spring (C Hawkins, 10-1); 3, Nastali (R Guest, 5-1); 4, Campsea-Ash (M Dwyer, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 3 fav Passion King, 5 The Howard (f), 8 Creole Bay, 12 Lucy Lastic, Expound (pu), 14 Sevens Out (5th), Oxymeron, 16 Pytchley Prince, 20 Black Comedy (6th), My Annadetsky, Palais De Danse, 50 Swift Shark (pu). 16 ran. sh hd, 1½l, ½l, 5l, 2l. P Mitchell at Epsom. Tote: £14.20; £2.60, £2.90, £3.30, £2.90. DF: £163.10. CSF: £135.06. Tricast: £644.95.

3.15 (3m 110yd ch) 1, ICKWORTH (G Mernagh, 6-1); 2, Dinny Walsh (T Morgan, 15-8 fav); 3, Red Columbia (J Doyle, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 John O'Dee (5th), 8 Master Of Lyric (pu), 25 Shackin Brig (pu), Towtame (4th), 33 Jonieni (pu), Good Trade (pu). 9 ran. 8l, ¾l, 8l, 8l. Mrs D Haine at Newmarket. Tote: £4.80; £1.60, £1.10, £1.60. DF: £5.50. CSF: £16.68. Tricast: £44.45.

3.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, THE JOLLY BEGGAR (M Dwyer, 6-1); 2, Comedy Sail (S Turner, 16-1); 3, Precious Link (P Holley, 7-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Stormy Monarch (5th), 8 Stray Shot, Four For Uncle (pu), 14 Mevagissey (4th), 16 Ascenmoor, 20 Pallavicina, 33 Charlton Kings (6th), Bwana Kali, 50 Golden Bavard, Hollow Wonder (f). 13 ran. 2l, 25l, 1l, 10l, sh hd. Jimmy Fitzgerald at Malton. Tote: £7.60; £2.40, £3.30, £1.70. DF: £46.00. CSF: £87.09. Tricast: £215.26.

Placepot: £143.20.

● Tim Pinfield (Kelsale and Call A Truce) and Mark Dwyer (Matlub and The Jolly Beggar) completed 662-1 and 37½-1 doubles respectively at Southwell yesterday. Dwyer is now on 59 for the season.

● Irish jockey Charlie Swan rides for the first time in Scotland today when he partners Glowing Tribute and Al Muhalhal for Nigel Tinkler at Edinburgh. Swan, aged 20, achieved his first Cheltenham success last month when Condor Pan won the Bula Hurdle.

● Fred Fytche, replaced by Peter Hudson as private trainer to Mohammed Al-Sabah's Al-Deera Bloodstock stables in Lambourn last month, has relinquished his licence.

Newbury plan improvements

Newbury racecourse is planning to raise money for improvements by selling off land for new houses.

Manager Frank Osgood said yesterday: "The course was established in 1905 and many of the facilities date from then.

"The board has decided to raise the money by selling the land to the south of the course which is not needed for racing. This will not effect racing in any way."

LIVE COURSE COMMENTARIES AND IMMEDIATE RESULTS
DIRECT COURSE LINES
0898 · 500 · PLUS
ASCOT 385
WETHERBY 385
EDINBURGH 387
MAIN PROGRAMME
0898 · 500 · 300
RACECALL
0898 calls charged at 25p per min cheap rate, 38p peak std.

RAPID RACELINE
CALL 0898 168+
THE COURSE No BELOW

	Live Commentaries	Fast Results
ASCOT	155	128
EDINBURGH	105	146
WETHERBY	109	-
ANTE POST	121	-
DAILY HIGHLIGHTS	169	-
TIMEFORM Raceview	132	–
FULL RESULTS 0898 168	168	–
GREYHOUNDS BAGS results	103	–
Prev. & Eve. Results London	102	–
Provincial	104	–

William HILL
Calls charged at 38p per min. peak and 25p per min. off peak inc. VAT.

YACHTING

Agreement in sight over water records

By Barry Pickthall

The war of words between leading ocean passage historians and the World Sailing Speed Record council over its newly proclaimed role as the world authority could soon be at an end.

A compromise looks likely after a meeting this week between John Reed, the council's secretary and Mike Evans, the director general of the International Yacht Racing Union.

The IYRU, the world authority on all yacht racing matters, has been working for a year to set up a committee to ratify future blue water records, unaware that the WSSR council, set up 16 years ago by Britain's Royal Yachting Association to ratify outright speed record attempts in Portland Harbour, had chosen to set itself a similar brief.

The council ran into a storm of protest when it published its rules last week, notably from Britain's Nobby Clarke and Richard Boehmers, two authorities on the subject, who accused the committee of attempting to change important precedents established by previous record-breakers, like Sir Francis Chichester, for 50 years.

The committee has also been criticized for the few records it is prepared to acknowledge, its limited knowledge of the subject and the lack of any representation for countries in the southern hemisphere.

Yesterday Mike Evans said: "We had a full and frank discussion during which we raised the idea of offering the council full IYRU recognition if they can widen their scope to include all world record claims and incorporate the very important work of outside experts including Boehmers and Clarke."

The proposal, which will be put to the WSSR council when it meets at Brest in France in March, has also met with approval from the *Guinness Book of Records*, which has acknowledged Clarke's record lists for the past 20 years.

A spokesman for it said yesterday: "We were very concerned about the possibility that new rules were to be drawn up. Nobby Clarke, our marine expert, has been using the same criteria for record attempts for many years and if these were suddenly changed, we feel sure that the volume of complaints would have been considerable. Now it appears that a real sense of continuity can be achieved with one governing body looking after all aspects of marine records."

Britons join Eastern test

As the present Paris to Dakar rally draws to a highly publicized conclusion, French yacht racing officials are drawing up final plans to hold an aquatic equivalent through the pirate-ridden waters of the South China Sea.

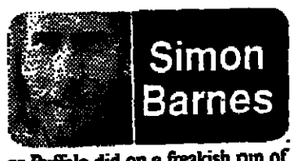
The 455-mile "China Sea Venture", which starts from Manila on March 2, is open to 18ft production catamarans and has already attracted 38 entries including Yves Pajot, France's America's Cup skipper, Robert Nagy, sailboard world champion, Thierry Peponnet, the 470 gold medal winner and Bruno Peyron, the transatlantic sailor.

Latest to sign up is Terry Restall, head of the London-based China Sea Explorations, who was so taken with the adventure when told about it at the London Boat Show this week, that he has agreed to sponsor a British entry. Skipper and crew will be announced shortly but in the meantime Restall is arranging to fly a boat out to the Philippines.

The 11-stage course takes the fleet from Manila south to Mindoro and on through the chain of islands dividing the South China Sea and Sulu Sea.

America's message to its seven-stone weakling cousin in England: you, too, can have a body like mine

When football kicks sand in soccer's face



New York

American football is a game glowing with health. The National Football League runs the professional game with an air of complete confidence in its own inevitable success, with a certainty of touch, with the sort of nous and entrepreneurial acumen that should be the envy of any other professional sporting body.

The contrast with our own beleaguered game of soccer is stark. All along the line, the NFL seems to have got it right where soccer has got it wrong.

The most obvious example of the NFL's right thinking is in the parity of competition. The first division in soccer has no such thing. It is two competitions in one: there is a superleague of clubs contending for the championship, and there are the rest who are playing for survival.

It is splendid when the superleague's grip on the championship is threatened by such clubs as Millwall and Norwich; but in the end it is the clubs with the long purses, the bottomless resources, that prevail.

The single, most glaring mistake occurred when home clubs were allowed to keep their own gate receipts. At a stroke, this made the big clubs richer and the small clubs poorer. It effectively removed parity from the championship.

The NFL operates a system they like to call "competitive balance". This sounds rather like the Charles Atlas system of "dynamic tension". Dick Maxwell, an NFL spokesman, said: "Equality has been the keynote to the growth of the league."

There are no Liverpools in the NFL. Clubs that command a vast market like New York, or Chicago, or Los Angeles, compete on level terms with teams that command tiny markets, teams like Green Bay from Wisconsin, or Buffalo from New York State.

Some teams may attract more national television than others. This does not matter: all television revenue is split 28 ways and every club has a share. Gate money is split 60-40 in favour of the home club. Ninety per cent of all football revenue is shared.

All this means that Buffalo got to within one game of the Super Bowl this year. Winning the Super Bowl is like winning the league and the cup combined: you don't get as far as Buffalo did on a freakish run of luck. Buffalo's success this season proves that the system of dynamic tension works.

"We have done surveys, and these show that the fans want close and exciting games," Maxwell said. "And that is the tradition of this league: one for all and all for one."

Equality goes even further. The team that finishes last gets first pick in the annual college draft; the Super Bowl winners get 28th pick. "Of course, it takes more than money to win football games," Maxwell said. "You still have to do it right – but you know the system is not stacked up against you before you start. No one starts with an unfair advantage. After all, this is supposed to be a *national* sport."

Soccer is supposed to be our own national game, but in fact, it is a tale of two or three cities. Soccer is rife with provincial self-interest and committees. The NFL has managed to cut through the wishy-washy, muddled policies that come from committees by putting an enormous amount of power into one man's hands. It works the same way in American politics.

The NFL is an organization paid by the owners of the 28 clubs to run the game. But the NFL is not run by a committee of 28; it is run by Commissioner Pete Rozelle. Rozelle is now in his thirtieth year in charge. He has power to take wide-reaching, unilateral action if he believes it to be in the game's interest.

As soccer threshes about in its search for revenue, it seems that the policy is to wrest the last drop of admission money from the hooligans before it is too late, with all these preposterous competitions all over the place. What on earth is the Simod Cup, anyway? Who plays in it? Has it been won yet?

But the NFL thrives on its scarcity value. The regular season comprises only 16 matches: eight home games a season. Every match is an occasion.

This is partly sensible management, partly the nature of the game. It is so violent, so physically taxing, that a longer season would hardly be possible. Alex Fynn, the man from Saatchi and Saatchi who loves to talk football, insists that the key to soccer is its "event-like nature". There is something special about Arsenal v Liverpool, as there is in Plymouth v Exeter. The NFL is structured to make every game an event.

Perhaps the central part of the NFL's success is its relationship with television. We are not talking about a wary, suspicious, uncertain alliance: we are talking about symbiosis. American football is perhaps the best television sports spectacular in the world.

This has been the case right from the Sixties. Rozelle established the relationship with television when other sports were wondering whether or not telly was a good thing. He bulldozed through the notion of sharing revenue in the face of some tough opposition. And the game booms. In 1985, as a piece of forward thinking, soccer removed itself from the television screens.

American football has natural advantages for television, with its tightly contained action at the line of scrimmage. Its stop-start nature makes for commercial breaks: and the sport has incorporated the television time-out effortlessly into its fabric. And football is played in winter, when people stay in and watch television; and the season reaches its crucial stage in December, when advertising peaks. Natural advantages: advantages maximized.

Let us not pretend that American football is all rosy. The problem of "labour agreements" between players and owners continues: the players' strike last season was hugely counter-productive. The problem of drugs hangs over the game and has been made worse by players' resistance to testing. At last, belatedly, steroids have become illegal in the game and mandatory pre-season testing comes this year.

The NFL is thinking cautiously of expanding and it is likely to take two new teams on board. No, not in London; not yet, anyway. But that remains a long-term, back-burner possibility.

That would be the ultimate example of kicking sand in the face of English soccer. But the Charles Atlas message is there for soccer: you, too, could have a governing body like mine.

RUGBY UNION: HORDES ARE SET TO GATHER AT STRADEY PARK AS LLANELLI ATTEMPT TO STEM THE ALL BLACK TIDE

Odds favour Neath to confirm they are second to none

By Gerald Davies

If any place can be said to be the heart of the game in Wales it must be down west, Llanelli way. And it is there tomorrow, at Stradey Park, where the crowds will gather in their hordes for the visit of Neath. And they are good. Very good.

On view will be the two best teams in Wales by a long chalk, both locked in long-awaited combat. Some would go further and say that they are the *only* two teams worthy of upholding the Welsh club tradition.

Only recently at St Helen's, Swansea, a huge crowd gathered to see in the new year. This was more, a colleague suggested, a testimony to the pulling power of Llanelli than any attraction which Swansea might be said to have. Since it was Clem Thomas, a Swansea man himself, who said it, you might well believe it.

Tomorrow, unlike then, Llanelli will be without Jonathan Davies, who in his last five matches scored 66 points, including nine tries. The Scarlets had scored 244 points in that time, and in their 27 matches so far they have lost only three and have amassed 879 points, including 151 tries.

Despite this, it is Neath who have gained most of the accolades this season. In October, at the Gnoll, Neath beat Llanelli 22-16. But Neath have lost only once, to Swansea, this season and have scored more than 1,000 points, including 181 tries. In Edmunds, on the wing, they have the top try scorer in Welsh rugby, with 21.

Neath have won their last 15 fixtures, averaging 40 points and seven tries a game. Their No. 8, Mark Jones, who will be playing for Wales against Scotland next weekend, has notched up 15 tries and Thorburn, the Wales captain, has collected 11 from full back.

Yet this is not altogether satisfactory for the new team manager, Ron Waldron, who, with Glen Ball, coaches the team. While such results appear to be to the good of the club, it is not a good reflection on Welsh rugby as a whole. Such success, Waldron feels, is superficial. What the club needs, he says, is stiffer competition on a more regular basis.

To continue winning by such huge margins is not necessarily good for the team either. With the prospect of playing New Zealand next season his side can improve only if they face harder matches. Easy games produce complacency and little incentive to improve. There are too few teams who can provide the kind of top-grade opposition which Neath need.

If Newbridge and Pontypridd seem suddenly to be perking up and extending the small pool of successful clubs, in truth Llanelli are the only team who seem capable of stemming Neath's own All Black tide.



Best foot forward: Paul Thorburn, scorer of 11 tries from full back for Neath this season

All-Ireland league is sanctioned

By George Ace

The Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU) will launch an all-Ireland league at the beginning of the 1990-91 season comprising two divisions, despite rumblings of discontent among clubs in Ulster and Leinster.

Kent Reid, the chairman of the IRFU game development committee, and a firm advocate of an all-Ireland league, clarified the situation when he said: "The IRFU will invite 19 senior clubs to form two divisions of a national league with nine and 10 clubs respectively in each. The first division will consist of three clubs from Ulster, Leinster and Munster and the second division three clubs from Ulster and Leinster and two clubs from each of Munster and Connacht.

"Promotion and relegation on a two-up and two-down basis will operate and in the first year the bottom three clubs in the second division will be replaced by two clubs from the four provincial leagues which will continue to operate.

"The 19 clubs initially invited will be determined by provincial league positions last season, this season and next and the only way a national league will not get under way is if the clubs invited did not respond in the affirmative. I cannot see that happening.

"The ultimate objective of the IRFU is to have all 47 senior clubs in Ireland playing in five divisions. This was the original proposal that was turned down narrowly by the clubs four years ago and after considerable discussion in the interim the game development committee devised the pilot scheme of 19 teams in two divisions."

Tom Kiernan, the president of the IRFU, has no misgivings about the benefits of an all-Ireland league although Jimmy Davidson, the national coach, is far from convinced that such a structure is a step in the right direction. He said: "Expansion of representative fixtures by the four provinces would offer greater benefit to our leading players than a series of league matches which may prove to be less attractive than a lot of people think."

The arguments for and against may gain momentum in the months ahead but it is a near certainty that the all-Ireland league will become a reality at the start of the season after next.

Richards may make a long-awaited return

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Dean Richards, the England No. 8, hopes to make his first appearance for Leicester for nearly two months in the Courage Clubs Championship match against Gloucester at Kingsholm tomorrow. He has been named in the side, subject to a fitness test.

Richards played for the Midlands in the last round of the divisional championship on December 17, only to aggravate a shoulder injury. He returned from Portugal with the England squad on Tuesday having collected a groin strain while Rory Underwood, the wing, turned an ankle and definitely misses tomorrow's league game.

Leicester will think twice before letting their players out of their sight again.

Underwood's place goes to Tony, his brother, while Leicester will also be without Evans, their other England wing. He is abroad on business and his place goes to Gerald against a Gloucester side including at centre, Maclean.

Bath, the league leaders, restore their four national squad men – Halliday, Chilcott, Egerton and Robinson – to the side which travels to play Liverpool-St Helens. Cronin, the Scotland lock, is selected ahead of Redman who is resting an injured knee.

Field for key World Cup post narrows

The post as director of the World Cup of 1991 is shaping up as a thankless task in the eyes of many aspirants. When the closing date arrived yesterday, the 125 initial enquiries had resulted in only 38 applications.

Officials of the governing body, the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB), will draw up a short-list and expect to announce an appointment by the end of the month, after interviewing the leading candidates.

Ray Williams, who resigned as the Welsh Rugby Union secretary after a pay dispute, is favourite for the position – but the International Board refuses to be drawn on speculation.

Guy's better ball-winners

By Gordon Allan

Guy's Hospital	17
St George's Hospital	3

Guy's beat St George's by a goal, two tries and a penalty goal to a penalty at Honor Oak Park yesterday to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Hospitals Cup. They play Royal Free, the losing finalists last season, on the same ground on January 26.

Guy's were the better team as far as ball-winning and taking scoring opportunities went but took a while to prove it. St George's have beaten five other hospitals in non-competitive matches this season and you could see why because, apart from their defensive qualities, their backs had enterprise and ideas and only their handling let them down.

Penalties were exchanged in the opening five minutes, kicked by Roblin for St George's and Davies, Guy's captain. Davies also scored his team's first try from a forward drive and quick second-phase possession.

Balcombe broke out of his own half for St George's and Temblett was brought down by Worth close to the Guy's line. On the stroke of half-time Guy's scored again, Docker, their long-serving scrum half, darting and dummying over in the corner from a five-metre scrum.

St George's were almost in for a try at the start of the second half when a Roblin penalty kick was cleared weakly by Guy's. The rest of the match took place at the other end of the field, with Guy's forcing scrum after scrum deep in the 22 and St George's shutting the door in their faces every time.

Something had to give, however, and 10 minutes before no-side, from the umpteenth scrum, Docker passed to Jones for a try, converted by Davies. It looked a comfortable enough win but it was not quite that.

SCORERS: Guy's: tries: Davies, Docker, Jones; conversion: Davies; penalty: Davies. St George's: penalty: Roblin.

GUY'S: M Rose; W Schaeffer, A Jones, J Worth, P Thomas; N Davies, R Docker; G Parry, B Stanhope, M Seare, P Cunningham, P Davis, C Welsby, J Barwell, A Skyrme.

ST GEORGE'S: C Pears; R Cooper, N Balcombe, S Clough, A Longley; P Roblin, B Hartley; A Lavender, R Hagger, J Wadey, A Keough, P Rauh, M Grocott, D Temblett, S Tallan.

Referee: J Cahill (London).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	O/Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	20	35	worn	varied	art	fine	0
Worn patches in places							
AUSTRIA							
Igls	3	80	good	heavy	poor	sun	–1
Igls limited, plenty of skiing at Axamer Lizum							
Maymoten	5	95	good	heavy	closed	fine	0
Still good piste skiing							
St Anton	40	240	fair	varied	fair	fine	–2
Spring snow conditions							
Schladming	50	170	good	crust	fair	fine	0
Excellent snow conditions and beautiful weather							
FRANCE							
Chamonix	25	110	fair	fair	closed	fine	5
Vallée blanche is now open for skiing							
Flaine	30	100	fair	varied	worn	cloud	0
Spring skiing conditions							
Les Arcs	20	54	worn	heavy	poor	fine	–4
Many bare patches							
Megève	10	30	poor	varied	poor	cloud	1
Many bare patches							
Morzine	15	40	worn	varied	worn	fine	4
Still enjoyable skiing to be found							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	10	50	fair	varied	closed	fine	–3
Good skiing on upper slopes							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	65	65	good	varied	good	fine	–2
Still good skiing conditions							
Davos	50	100	good	varied	good	fine	–1
Conditions still very good							
Grindelwald	15	80	fair	varied	poor	fine	1
Snow on upper slopes still good							
Mürren	35	75	fair	varied	poor	fine	1
Good skiing on higher slopes							
Saas Fee	20	135	fair	varied	closed	fair	–1
Sunny glacier skiing continues							
Villars	0	30	fair	varied	closed	fine	5
Skiing above 1,600m still reasonable							
Zermatt	10	45	worn	varied	poor	fine	3
Excellent piste skiing above 2,300m							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

GERMANY	L	U
Berchtesgaden	0	120
Garmisch-Partenkirchen	0	60
Hindelang-Oberjoch	5	30
Mittenwald	10	60
Oberstdorf	5	130
Oberstaufen	10	15

● Information supplied by the German Automobile Club.

SWITZERLAND	L	U
Adelboden	25	45
Andermatt	40	100
Champéry-Les Crosets	0	30
Crans-Montana	15	60
Engelberg	20	80
Gstaad	15	30
Klosters	50	100
Laax-Films	15	50
Leysin	0	40
Pontresina	15	35
St Moritz	10	20
Verbier	5	120
Wengen	20	70

● Information supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm, Glencoe, Glenshee and the Lecht: Still not enough snow for skiing. **Forecast:** A stormy day in prospect for all areas, particularly on the mountains with southerly winds increasing later tonight, reaching severe gale or storm force at times tomorrow; rain, preceded by a short spell of snow, will reach Glencoe by mid-morning and the eastern resorts by early afternoon, making for dreadful and dangerous conditions on the slopes; freezing levels starting at 2,000ft will quickly rise above summits. **Outlook:** Very stormy; cold again tomorrow, with a mixture of sunshine and snow showers at most levels; on Sunday, it will become mild again, but very windy at all resorts.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

ROWING

The day of the ergoperson

By Jim Railton

Oxford University will stage the inaugural land regatta in this country tomorrow. In this indoor event at the Iffley Road Sports Centre, 20 computerized rowing machines called ergometers will test the speed of over 150 rowers in nine categories. The top oarsman, or rather ergoman and ergowoman, will, if up to a required standard, be invited to Boston, Massachusetts for the second world championship Ergo Sprints over 2,500 metres (2,734 yards) on February 19.

The rowing ergometer is not a new invention but in recent years such machines have benefited from high technology and they retail at a price most clubs can afford. On Saturday, in each of the nine men's and women's categories, the ergometer will be set at 2,500 metres and, by way of a countdown, each competitor's time will be taken to within one-tenth of a second to achieve the set distance.

The world record is held by the world and Olympic sculler, Andrew Sadduth, of the United States, with a time of 7 minutes 37.4 seconds. That is hardly a sprint.

With the Charles River in Boston frozen over in the winter, ergometer training has proven an excellent substitute for actual rowing in many parts of the world.

Tomorrow's open event has attracted most of the British Olympic team, including the Olympic and world gold medal winner, Stephen Redgrave, and the whole of the Oxford University Boat Club squad.

HOCKEY

Potter joins games of masquerade

By Sydney Friskin

Jon Potter, a member of the Olympic gold medal-winning side, will make his first indoor appearance for England in the HDM international tournament which starts today in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Several national teams masquerade as club sides in this event, and England are calling themselves the Lions as they prepare to defend their title in the four nations' tournament next weekend in Glasgow.

England have lost Jennings because of injury but are reinforced by Halliday and Grimley, who missed the Roses tournament last weekend at Crystal Palace.

England start the day with a match against Switzerland (playing under the name of Helvetia), who should not be too difficult an obstacle; but later in the day they face the Poles who, two years ago, put England out of the European championship.

Jong Oranje (Netherlands opposition in England's group.

Antipodeans, runners-up to Hamburg in the Glenfiddick tournament last Sunday in Glasgow, are in the other group, along with last year's winners, the Blue Devils (France), Scotland, Wien (Austria) and HDM, the host side.

● There are three changes in the England under-21 men's squad for the Mid-Shires tournament starting today at Cocks Moor leisure centre, Birmingham. West, Stokes and Barrow replace Coleman, McGuire and Lackes, the goalkeeper, who has not recovered from a knee injury. The under-21 sides from France, Wales and Austria are also taking part.

● England, playing as the Cardinals, Wales and Scotland will all be out in force, in the HDM women's tournament (Joyce Whitehead writes). The England squad, with the exception of Reid, Bollington and Green, are all England outdoor trialists.

Glamorgan take title

Glamorgan beat West Clwyd 4-0 to win the final of the Welsh women's indoor county championship and by beating Porthcawl 1-0, Swansea took the clubs' title (Joyce Whitehead writes).

This weekend, the East and West are the first two territories to hold their finals in readiness for the national schools' championship in March. The East's under-18s play tomorrow and the under-16s on Sunday. The West under-18 and under-16 both play tomorrow. In both East and West, there are eight teams in each section.

East under-18s (at UoE, Colchester): Friends (Saffron Walden), Southend HS, Herts and Essex HS (Bishop's Stortford), Kim Bolton (Hornsgodon), Hayes (Bromley), Spalding HS, Wymondham C, Ipswich HS.

BOWLS

Small rink is Victoria's big advantage

Victoria (Street), a single-rink club from Somerset, hopes to reach the quarter-finals of the Anglia Secure Homes championship for the second time in three years by beating Plymouth in the fifth round tomorrow (Gordon Allan writes).

In 1987, Victoria lost to Paddington, who went on to win the title. Derek Bradshaw, Victoria's only Liberty Trophy player, skips the rink at Street, where the club will try to score heavily against opponents used to bigger greens.

The other "home" four play down the road at Wyrral Park, Glastonbury.

Victoria has plans for expansion and last summer, to raise funds, the club organized a week's bowls tuition on their green as part of Millfield school's series of holiday courses.

VICTORIA (Street): Rink 1: K Hannam, P Vowles, R Barr, D Bradshaw. Rink 2: R Thyer, D Withers, A Smith, R Garlick. Rink 3: P Shire, M Francis, G Underwood, B Portcary. Rink 4: R Chiffers, C Frost, B Burt, J Sharp.

ICE SKATING

Olympic pair withdraw

The Olympic pairs champions, Ekaterina Gordeeva and Sergei Grinkov, of the Soviet Union, have withdrawn from the defence of their European championship in Birmingham starting on January 17.

No reason for their sudden withdrawal was given by the Soviets, who added only that their replacements are a young couple, Elena Kvitchenko and Rashid Kadyrkaev. Gordeeva and Grinkov were the only gold medal winners from Calgary expected to compete at the National Exhibition Centre.

Sport's unsung heroes

Lurking in the shadows of the famous figures of British sport are about half a million unpaid volunteers, it was revealed yesterday. The spare time that the "secret army" of coaches, officials and administrators devote to sport is equivalent to that of 25,000 full-time workers.

From the commanders of governing bodies to the humble lieutenants who referee games, the extent to which sport is served by unsung, unpaid heroes is made clear by Sports Council researchers who have published their findings in their official magazine *Sport and Leisure*.

Paying tribute to the volunteers, John Smith, the council chairman, said: "Were it not for the considerable effort and time spent by sport's devoted servants, opportunities for taking part would be considerably fewer than they are today."

Michael Collins, head of the Sports Council's research unit, added: "Several new sports, many governing bodies and tens of thousands of clubs do thrive and grow. But many do not and the voluntary sector is a static part of an expanding universe.

"Since the rest of the universe depends upon voluntary sport for services of regulation and discipline at least, it behoves the other sections to try to help."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Barclays League

Third division

Southend v Fulham (7.45)

Fourth division

Colchester v Tranmere

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy World professional championship (Frimley Green).

SNOOKER: Mercantile Credit classic (Blackpool).

SPORT ON TV

AMERICAN COLLEGE FOOTBALL: ITV 4-5am (tomorrow).

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Sky Channel 9.45-10.45pm.

DARTS: BBC2 11.20pm-12.35am: Embassy World professional championship from Frimley Green (see also Sport on Friday).

MOTOR SPORT: Sky Channel 6.45-7am and 9.30-9.45pm: Paris to Dakar rally: Report.

SNOOKER: ITV 1.30-2, 2.55-3.25, 5.10-5.15pm, 11.05pm-12.30am: Mercantile Credit classic from Blackpool.

SNOW REPORT: Sky Channel 9.23-9.30pm: Skiing conditions at the main resorts in Europe.

SPORT ON FRIDAY: BBC2 2.15-3.50pm: Darts: Embassy World professional championship from Frimley Green. Motor Sport: World rally championship: Swedish round. Football: Review of FA Cup third round. Diving: News of Sunsilk Cup.

TRY THIS

Paul Maher's suggestion for a sporting day out

HANDBALL: WOMEN'S EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Manchester United SSS created history when they progressed to the second round, defeating the Belgian team, Sasja Antwerp, in December. After United had lost the first leg 12-7, their efforts were rewarded with a 14-8 win at home, ensuring, by the closest of margins, a place in the draw. Tomorrow at Eccles, they meet one of Europe's leading clubs, TJ Gottwaldow, of Czechoslovakia, in the first leg.

Gottwaldow have not played in this competition for three years, though they reached the final in 1984. Tomorrow they play four of the Czechoslovak squad which finished fifth at the Olympic Games in Seoul, including the world-rated goalkeeper, Anna Hradska. United, whose defence is proven, will not underestimate their opposition's record, knowing their task is greater in attack despite vocal spectator support in this leg. In Squire, United have a fine play-maker and if Taylor shoots on target, Hradska will be put to the test.

How to get there: Eccles Recreation Centre, Barton Lane, Eccles (061-787 7107). Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children and pensioners. The match starts at 7pm.

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: NEWCASTLE DECIDE TO CUT THEIR LOSSES AS GOALKEEPER IS PERSUADED TO RETURN TO LONDON

Beasant completes move to Chelsea in a £725,000 deal

By Dennis Signy

Dave Beasant, the Newcastle United goalkeeper, completed his £725,000 transfer to Chelsea yesterday and after signing a 5½-year contract was promptly named in the side to play Crystal Palace at Stamford Bridge tomorrow.

The fee for the most expensive goalkeeper in Britain — Newcastle paid Wimbledon £850,000 for him — was a Chelsea club record and Bobby Campbell, the manager, who wanted to sign Beasant before he joined Newcastle, said he rated him in the top four in the country.

Campbell's need for an experienced goalkeeper followed the retirement of Niedzwiecki, the Welsh international, and, more particularly, a knee injury to Hitchcock — who will be unavailable for up to 10 weeks.

The deal means that Newcastle, who bought Beasant in June soon after he had led Wimbledon to victory against Liverpool in the FA Cup final at Wembley, lost nearly £200,000 in seven months with levies and signing on fees.

The financial details were finalized by Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, who said the deal would have been called off if Beasant had not been available for tomorrow's game.

Beasant said his reasons for the move were varied. Among them was Chelsea's ambition. Newcastle's willingness to release him and the opportunity to return south. "It's nice to get back to traffic jams," he said.

While Stamford Bridge is welcoming one new player, it looks certain they will be waving goodbye to another. Darren Wood, their transfer-seeking midfield player, is likely to join Sheffield Wednesday for £500,000

Despite his latest signing, Campbell has balanced the books since taking over as manager at the end of last season. He has bought Beasant, Roberts, Nicholas, Hitchcock and Mitchell for a total of £1.9 million; but has recouped the money by selling Nevin, Pates, Wegerle, Bodley and Coady, as well as receiving compensation for the enforced retirement through injury of Niedzwiecki and Wicks.

Mickey Hazard, signed from Tottenham Hotspur for £350,000 but out of the Chelsea side since May through injury, has also asked for a transfer.

Peter Nicholas, who dislocated his shoulder in the FA Cup defeat at Barnsley last week, will be out of action for a further two weeks.

● West Bromwich Albion last night signed Brian Rice, the Nottingham Forest midfield player, on a month's loan. Rice, who has lost his first-team place in the side, cost Forest £175,000 when he joined them from Hibernian in 1985.

● Norwich City last night sold Simon Ratcliffe, their unsettled defender, to Brentford for £90,000 — £50,000 more than they paid Manchester United for him 18 months ago.

● Martin Lane, a defender, yesterday rejoined Chester City when he was signed from Coventry City for £25,000.

● Northampton Town completed their third signing in 24 hours with the capture of Trevor Quow, of Gillingham, for £20,000.



Taking stock: Dave Beasant surveys Stamford Bridge after agreeing on a move to Chelsea

Drawbacks of the indoor game

From David Miller
Rotterdam

The first world indoor five-a-side championship, hosted by The Netherlands, had attracted nearly 30,000 spectators by the end of the second round last night. With the semi-finals tomorrow and Sunday's final likely to produce around 15,000 between them, the total figure will be well short of the 60,000 for which the organizers had hoped, and must pose questions about the future of this proposed four-yearly event, in spite of several full houses here to see the exciting Dutch team.

What is evident is the undoubted value of the five-a-side game, as controlled by FIFA, to the conventional outdoor game. Played with normal touchlines and goal lines on a pitch measuring approximately 20 x 40 metres, rather than with surrounding ice hockey-style boards, an extreme degree of ball control is needed.

As Joseph Blatter, the general secretary of FIFA, observes: "The game produces good technicians. The indoor game, if developed, can compensate for the fact that so many children, from Belgrade to Buenos Aires, can no longer play and acquire their skills in the streets."

In the matches I have seen, The Netherlands, Hungary, Argentina and, unexpectedly, the United States have exhibited a high level of technique: demonstrating, among other things, that America will by no means disgrace itself in the World Cup proper of 1994.

The game as played in America's indoor league uses surrounding boards — as do West Germany, Switzerland, Austria and, to the small degree that they play, England and Scotland — which encourages a rapid pin-ball style of play wholly dissimilar from real football. The touchlines, with kick-ins, cause a slower, more rational game and necessitate skill in keeping the ball in play. Van Leeuwe (Netherlands), Zsadanyi and Qirilo (Hungary) and Ocamp (Argentina) have been exceptional.

What the game needs, of course, is the establishing of some tradition and exposure, the creation of star names and reputations. It is difficult to persuade crowds to watch the "national" Dutch team without Gullit or Argentina without Maradona. Because of America's established indoor competition, an inaugural world event might, with hindsight, have been more successful in the United States than in the Netherlands; though the Dutch FA hopes to break even on its expenditure.

The major expense, however, has been picked up not by FIFA but by ISL, the Lucerne-based marketing agents. In exchange for the profitable exclusivity on marketing the World Cup, ISL are contractually required to "support" other events, such as the heavily expensive under-17 youth cup (in Scotland this year), last year's women's event in China, and now the five-a-side. What with air fares for 14 of the 16 finalists, plus the fee to FIFA for the privilege of being effective sponsors, ISL will have had to pay, I estimate, something approaching £350,000. It shows what must be the profit from the World Cup.

Yet the money could prove to be well spent. After all, the World Cup itself began with only 13 countries in 1930, and FIFA needs to encourage every root of the game against the ever-more competitive rivalry from other sports.

The objective of this world championship was to demonstrate FIFA's control of the indoor game and to unify the rules. The International Olympic Committee has, for instance, been requested to acknowledge only one football authority in any member country. There are dissident indoor groups in both Spain and Australia, though the unofficial world indoor authority, FIFUSA, based in Brazil, has agreed to become an affiliated department of FIFA. Jasmario D'Alessio, the Brazilian president of FIFUSA, has been invited to attend the final here on Sunday.

The unification of five-a-side rules by FIFA requires, or allows:

Touchlines and goal lines, with kick-ins and corner kicks; 25 minutes each way; no slide tackles; multi-team changes from the bench as in ice hockey; freekicks against time wasting; replacement of a player sent off, by a different player after five minutes; two referees running the touchlines, only one with a whistle.

What the game emphasizes is the need for speed over five yards, close marking without fouling, agility and accuracy in shooting at tiny goals, a concentration of play on the ground because there is no space for airborne play, and perfect control.

What it does not require is, however agreeable, a brass band beating out Fats Waller from the 10 Guilder seats: if a FIFA tournament is short enough on entertainment to need a band during play, it should not be a FIFA tournament.

Chambers out to stop the slide

Non-League football by Paul Newman

Bryan Chambers, the manager of Stafford Rangers, has given himself a month in which to stop the club's slide towards relegation from the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Chambers, who was appointed last summer, has already made sweeping changes after a run of eight defeats in 11 matches which has left Stafford one place above the relegation zone. The club's three coaches have been dismissed, training has been made more rigorous, and a more attacking style of play has been adopted.

Chambers arrived from Worksop Town without any direct experience of Conference football and had to undertake a substantial rebuilding programme after the departure of several leading players, including Derbyshire, Simpson and Cockerill. He admits that some of the replacements he brought in "weren't good enough" and is in the process of strengthening the squad.

"It is my first season in the Conference and I underestimated how good it was," he said. "At Worksop we always did well against Conference teams, but the league has come on in leaps and bounds over the last year or two.

"I have spent a lot of time scouting and weighing up the Conference and I recognize that I haven't been as close to the players as I should have been. But that has changed now and I'm confident I can turn things around. If I don't feel I can get the club out of trouble — and I will know within the next month whether I can do it or not — I will get out of the way."

Chambers dismissed his coaches, John Ridley, Jim McGowan and Mal Meddings, when he decided that the players "weren't as fit as they should have been". With the help of Barry Whittaker, the physiotherapist, and Bob Walters, the trainer, he has imposed a more strenuous training programme.

A switch to a more attacking style of play failed to save Stafford from a 1-0 defeat at home to Kidderminster Harriers last week, but Chambers was pleased with the performance. "We should have won comfortably and if we continue to play like that there will be no problems getting clear of trouble" he said.

● Mike Lake, the Macclesfield Town midfield player, has been added to the England squad for the semi-professional international against Italy at La Spezia on January 29. Paul Rogers, of Sutton United, would have been called up but has been left out because of his club's FA Cup commitments.

● Maidstone United have agreed terms to share Dartford's ground for another season while they continue their search for a new home.

● Bryn Jones, the former Chester City midfield player, has been appointed manager of Caernarfon Town in succession to Phil Wilson, who was dismissed in November.

● John Timmons, the Altrincham forward, has joined Macclesfield in exchange for Nigel Shaw, a defender, and Keith Mountford, a forward. Boston United have paid Lincoln United £2,000 for Steve McLaughlin, and have sold Glen Beech, another midfield player, to Kettering Town for a four-figure fee.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S RESULTS

FA CUP: Third round replays: Arsenal 0, West Ham 1; Everton 1, WBA 0; Oxford 2, Sunderland 0; QPR 2, Manchester Utd 2 (aet); Reading 2, Tranmere 1.
SIMOD CUP: Third round: Middlesbrough 1, Coventry 0.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 1, Derby 2; Huddersfield 1, Aston Villa 7; Nottingham Forest 3, Sunderland 0; Sheffield United 3, Sheffield Wednesday 0. Second division: Bolton 2, Mansfield 2; Doncaster 0, Scunthorpe 1; Wigan 1, Preston 0; York 0, Darlington 1.
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Brighton 1, Watford 1; Swindon 3, Charlton 2.
CAPITAL LEAGUE: Aylesbury 0, Colchester 3; Welling 2, Southend 0.
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Rhyl 6, Horwich 1.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Second division south: Horsham 1, Epsom and Ewell 3.
UNIVERSITY MATCH: Scottish championship: Aberdeen 3, Dundee 2.
ENGLISH SCHOOLS MITRE UNDER-19 TROPHY: Xaverian College, Manchester 1, St Michael's College, Leeds 2; Lymm HS, Cheshire 4, Pendleton College, Manchester 5; Stratford-on-Avon HS 0, Wollaston Comp, Wellingborough 1; Weald College, Middlesex 0, St Francis Xavier, Inner London 0; Varndean College 1, Hill College, Southampton 2.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Army 4, Civil Service 1 (at Aldershot).
WORLD FIVE-A-SIDE CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A: Netherlands 4, Italy 1; Hungary 2, Belgium 2. Group B: Brazil 6, Argentina 3; Paraguay 0, United States 2.
PORTUGUESE CUP: Academica Coimbra 0, FC Porto 1; Espinho 2, Boavista 1; Beira Mar 1, Portimonense 0; Belenenses 3, Covilha 0; Cosa Caparica 1, Maritimo 1; Chaves 3, Ermesinde 0; Vasco da Gama 2, Guimaraes 1; Sao Romao 0, Estrela Amadora 3; Benfica 14, Riachense 1.
SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Sociedad 1, Elche 0; Gijon 1, Valencia 0; Valladolid 0, Atletico Madrid 1; Osasuna 3, Oviedo 1; Zaragoza 0, Cadiz 1; Real Madrid 2, Malaga 1; Betis 2, Espanol 2; Celta 1, Logrones 0; Murcia 1, Athletic Bilbao 1; Barcelona 4, Sevilla 0. Leading positions: 1, Real Madrid, played 18, 31pts; 2, Barcelona, 18, 29; 3, Atletico Madrid, 18, 21.
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Malta 1, Israel 2 (Valetta).

Francis in plea to McDonald

The Queen's Park Rangers manager, Trevor Francis will fight to keep his club's FA Cup saviour, Alan McDonald, even though the Northern Ireland international still insists he wants to leave as quickly as possible.

McDonald, who signed a new four-year contract recently, crowned a fine individual performance by heading the goal which saved Rangers in the dying seconds of extra time against Manchester United.

MOTOR RALLYING

Two-camel race in the rally of sudden death

By Jeremy Hart

Ari Vatanen, in spite of being assured of his place as team leader at Peugeot, will have his work cut out this morning to win his second Paris to Dakar rally in three years. After the 203-kilometre stage yesterday from Tambacounda to Saint Louis, in Senegal, Vatanen is second in the 18-day rally by only 20 seconds from his teammate, Jacky Ickx. On the Atlantic coast of Senegal this morning Vatanen and Ickx will have a 40-kilometre sprint for the finish line.

Last year Vatanen was welcomed in Dakar as the moral victor of the rally after being disqualified for having his car stolen. This year the boot is on the other foot. In Dakar today Ickx will be hailed as the moral victor, win or lose. He was demoted to second place in the Peugeot team, as well as in the rally, after the toss of a coin to determine the team leader earlier this week in a move to stop the team-mates from knocking each other out of the event.

Peugeot's decision will, however, be the last thing on the drivers' minds as they blast down the beach at Dakar, and even if Vatanen does cross the line first and receives the spoils of success, his Belgian contemporary will, whatever the official result, be hailed the victor.

The machismo and skill of an event designed as an adventure is tarnished by the toss of a coin. The hundreds of amateurs who flog themselves into the dust to try to keep up with the rally must be left dumbfounded by Peugeot's action.

All the talk of moral winners is hypocritical in a rally billed each year as the world's biggest and toughest test for men and machines. In 1988 six competitors and spectators were killed and most years there have been serious accidents which leave drivers and riders of cars and motorbikes maimed.

In an attempt to make the "the Rally of Death" safer, the organizers lined up extra medical units along the route through North and West Africa and imposed speed limits through the mud-hut villages that line the route through Tunisia, Libya, Niger, Mali, Guinea and Senegal.

The safety measures have not only wrapped the rally in cotton wool, they have made it antiseptic. There have been no fatalities this time, for which there has been a sigh of relief, but the tooth-and-nail fight to win the "Dakar" has disappeared with the fatalities.

There were only ever three teams capable of winning this year. Range Rover enlisted Henri Pescarolo, the former Le Mans driver, Mitsubishi signed Patrick Tambay, the former Grand Prix driver, and Peugeot bought the services of Vatanen, the 1981 world rally champion, and Ickx, the sports car and former Formula One driver.

Into the boiling pot of the Sahara desert went the gladiators. Tambay's team-mates at Mitsubishi were the first to melt, victims of Third World petrol supplies destroying highly tuned Japanese engines. The French-entered Range Rovers were the next to evaporate, in a mist of steering and engine failures.

Before the rally reached halfway at the desert staging post of Agadez in Niger, the Paris to Dakar was a three-camel race.

Tambay loves a challenge. But his lone Mitsubishi against the £2.2 million might of the French Peugeot team seemed a trifle unfair. As with all underdogs, especially a Mr Nice Guy like Tambay, the masses began to root for the Frenchman snapping at the heels of Ickx and Vatanen. His Mitsubishi never managed to get closer than within an hour of them.

Minutes separated the Peugeot drivers for most of the charge across 60-foot sand dunes, razor-sharp rocks and through Tuareg camel trains. Ickx led for the first two thirds of the rally, Vatanen edging past on Monday with the help of his team manager, Jean Todt, only for Ickx to pounce again yesterday afternoon.

Todt was about the only Frenchman on the rally not hoping that Tambay would beat the two foreigners in the blue-and-white Peugeots. As each day, with the Peugeots leading, went by, Todt became more and more worried that his multi-million dollar responsibility was about to end in two heaps of twisted metal and that Tambay would sail past to the finish line on Dakar Beach . . . all this on Peugeot's Paris to Dakar swansong.

Todt had but one option, tossing a coin to nominate a team leader. Vatanen won the toss, performed ceremoniously under the glare of television lights in the capital of Niger Niamey last Saturday night. Yesterday Ickx overtook his team-mate by mistake when Vatanen lost his way briefly to finish seventh, 20 seconds behind.

The moralists are the winners of this rally. Even the organizer, Gilbert Sabine, talked of Ickx being the moral winner but the enthusiasts have paid the price of the easing of the strain of this desert challenge.

Rally results

STAGE: Cars: 1, J Ickx (Bel), Peugeot 405, 5hr 40min 40sec; 2, J Castroviejo (Fr), Toyota, at 1min 48sec; 3, G Fitzgualin (Fr), Peugeot 405, at 1:58; 4, P Weimbergues (Fr), Peugeot 205, at 2:25; 5, P Tambay (Fr), Mitsubishi, at 4:37; 6, J-P Fontenay (Fr), Mitsubishi, at 4:38. Overall: 1, Ickx, 25hr 48min 44sec; 2, Vatanen, at 20sec; 3, Tambay, at 3:52:16. Motorcycles: Stage: 1, S Peterhansel (Fr), Yamaha, 2hr 8min 54sec; 2, J Daures (Fr), Honda, at 54sec; 3, T Chiaronnier (Fr), Suzuki, at 1min 30sec. Overall: 1, G Laisy (Fr), 60hr 22min 9sec; 2, F Picco (It), at 40min 25sec; 3, M Morales (Fr), at 41:57.

TENNIS

McEnroe keeping the demon at bay

By Richard Evans

"I'll probably go out and make a fool of myself tonight," John McEnroe said, just a few hours before he produced a display of inspired shot-making to defeat the world No. 1, Mats Wilander, 6-4, 6-3 in the Rio Challenge at Memorial Drive in Adelaide yesterday.

McEnroe's mood swings can be as unpredictable as the selection of lobs with which he destroyed Wilander's attempts to dominate the net. He was talking on the phone as he splashed about in his bath at the Adelaide Hilton, missing the chance to play with his two baby sons, who have been left behind with their mother in California.

"Just the fact that I'm here is a positive move," he said, referring to the fact that he has turned down the long trip down under three times since he last played in Australia in 1985. "It means that I will at least get off to an early start this year."

The question of whether he needs a coach to help him through the 1989 campaign is something he has still not addressed with any degree of logic.

"I can't make up my mind what sort of person I need," he said. "If Rod Laver would ever think of taking the time to work with me that would be great because I respect him so much."

So McEnroe remains the great loner of the circuit, battling to maintain the level of motivation required to prove that a return to greatness is within reach. A few more performances like the one that Wilander was forced to endure should be sufficient to keep the inner demon as well as the doubting critics at bay.

RESULTS: J McEnroe (US) bt M Wilander (Swe), 6-4, 6-3; I Lendl (Cz) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-4, 7-6.

Cornish will play on

Simon Cornish, the 17-year-old dismissed from the Lawn Tennis Association's school at Bisham Abbey on Wednesday, remains determined to carve a career in the sport (Louise Taylor writes).

"I plan to take a couple of weeks off and then get back into tennis. I haven't decided exactly what I will be trying to do in terms of competition but I am not going to give up." Cornish, who is one of the country's most promising prospects but was forced to leave due to a suspect attitude, said yesterday.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Barrow Island's cup challenge

By Keith Macklin

Barrow Island is one of two small islands offshore at Barrow-in-Furness, Walney being the other. It boasts an amateur rugby league club which has just achieved the pinnacle of its 54-year history by reaching the preliminary round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

The club was formed in 1935 in one of the small shipyard workers' houses which surround the giant Vickers Armstrong shipbuilding complex, now known simply as Vickers. Streets bear picturesque seafaring names like Brig Street and Barque Street, and it was in a house in one of these that a small group of shipyard workers who were rugby league enthusiasts met one evening and decided to form a club.

The result was Barrow Island ARLFC, which plays in the Barrow and District League of the British Amateur Rugby League Association.

At least six changes of ground later, it has moved several miles away from the first shipyard recreation ground to a compact and tidy little ground behind the Farmer's Arms in Hollow Lane, one of the posher suburbs of Barrow. Despite its move from the roots, the club retains the name and the connection with the shipyard, though only a handful of Vickers' workers play for it.

Recruits to the thriving under-17, under-19 and open-age teams come from throughout the Furness area, and mini-rugby is played by youngsters between the ages of nine and 15.

On Sunday Barrow Island entertain Thatto Heath, the St Helens amateur club, in the preliminary round of the Challenge Cup, so at least one amateur club will go through to the first round proper. Barrow Island reached this stage by winning the Cumbria Amateur Cup.

Sunday's match will be played at Craven Park, home of Barrow RLFC.

Oldham to move up market

Oldham Rugby League Club, which has been run by the committee and members since 1876, will go up market next week when it becomes the first plc in the sport (a Special Correspondent writes).

The subscription list will open next Thursday and remain so until February 27. On offer will be 750,000 £1 shares with a minimum holding of £25 and a maximum of 20 per cent of the total shareholding.

More than 30,000 copies of a prospectus will be issued under the Business Expansion Scheme in which major investors of £500 or more will benefit from tax relief. The prospectus will be circulated to all business and professional people in the region and handed out to spectators at the home game against Bradford Northern on Sunday week.

Greg Pache, the Oldham director, said yesterday: "To take Oldham to the top we must have the money to compete with clubs like Wigan and Leeds."

BOXING

Currie calls in the boffins

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

If it was the lack of conditioning that was holding up the progress of Trevor Currie, then Gary Mason had better watch out when he meets the Catford heavyweight for the British title on January 18 at the Albert Hall. The former British and Commonwealth heavyweight champion is in the best shape of his life — thanks to Bath University.

Currie will step into the ring a trim 16st 11lb, a stone lighter than he was in his last bout in October when comfortably beating Noel Quarless. It has all been done with the help of scientific gadgets and supervision at the Bath University Sports Centre.

Currie was full of the joys of boxing at the centre yesterday after four weeks of fighting the flab under the eye of Tom Hudson, the Director of Physical Training at the university, a former SAS officer and "a hard man when it comes to kicking you to get you fit," according to Currie's manager, Mike Barrett.

"When I first came here I was dead on my feet," Currie said. "Now I am in top condition and I am going to beat him up." Currie's trainer, Bobby Neill, was delighted at the improvement in the once flat-footed plodder. "He always had the skill but never the conditioning," Neill said. "Now he is a completely new fighter."

Hudson, who is also the fitness adviser to Bath Rugby Club, admitted that when Currie first came to him he was in no condition to box for a title. "We would have advised against his fighting in the condition he was," Hudson said. But after giving him pre-season training with the Bath team and seven-to-five conditioning and boxing moves for four weeks, he believes that Currie is 50 per cent fitter. "It could be more; we will measure it on Friday," Hudson said.

This is the first time that professional boxing training has been undertaken by a university. Currie is one of 14 boxers from Barrett's stable to have been put through their paces by Hudson. The idea of putting his boxers through this novel procedure came to Barrett when two friends from Harlequins Rugby Club introduced him to Hudson a year ago.

If Currie is as fit as Gary Jacobs, another Barrett boxer, was when lifting the World Boxing Council International welterweight title, then he could well regain the British crown. "I am going to win for Mike, Tom, Bobby, and most of all, for me," Currie said.

● The British light-welterweight champion, Lloyd Christie, will defend his title against Clinton McKenzie at the Cocks Moors Woods Leisure Centre in Birmingham on January 24.

£200,000 for rugby league growth

The Rugby League Foundation was started 18 months ago, yet many people within the sport are still unaware of its place in the game's structure and have little or no idea what it does or is supposed to do (Keith Macklin writes).

Quite a few eyebrows were raised, therefore, when it was stated this week that grants of more than £200,000 had been pledged by the foundation for this season.

Nearly half of this sum has been allocated to national coaching and development schemes, while other beneficiaries are the new regional development officers throughout the country, the newly-established youth league, schools and student rugby league teams.

The foundation was, in fact, formed to provide essential funding for new areas of development within the league code at both amateur and professional level and is headed by Bob Ashby, chairman of the Rugby Football League (RFL).

It gets its income from a major injection of sponsorship money from British Coal, which sponsors the new youth league, and from the RFL's funds.

Without the foundation many projects would have been delayed or stifled at birth. This is particularly true of the nation-wide campaign to establish development officers, many of them in areas outside normal league territory which would otherwise have remained barren.

Of the £43,500 grants for the establishment of development officers, £15,500 went to the Sheffield appointment, £10,000 to London and £6,000 each to Humberside, Calderdale and Kirklees.

English schools have received £25,000, plus an under-16 French tour allowance, while the Hull and St Helens senior clubs each got £1,000 for launching coaching projects for schools.

The foundation's support is essential for student rugby league, which has been allocated £20,000. Half of this is an annual grant, with the other £10,000 being working capital for the proposed staging of the Student World Cup in Britain next August.

Without this financial backing this ambitious project would barely get off the ground, and there is still around £80,000 to be found to ensure that the event is staged efficiently.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

TAIPEI: Taipei Masters Invitational championships: British results: Men's singles: Third round: E Kurniawan (Indo) bt S Butler, 17-15, 15-7; S Baddeley bt Sze Yu (Aus), 15-9, 15-5. Women's singles: Third round: J Munday bt A Knaap (Neth), 12-10, 12-10; L Coene (Neth) bt H Troke (Eng), 11-3, 12-10. Women's doubles: Third-round: G Clark and A Chan (HK) bt M Kashiwa and T Shishi (Jap), 15-9, 15-11; H Troke and G Gowers bt C Lee and C Kang (Taiwan), 15-7, 15-9; M Bengasson and C Magnusson (Swe) bt J Munday and F Smith (Eng), 15-3, 15-7.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Wednesday: Indiana Pacers 127, Boston Celtics 108; Chicago Bulls 105, Charlotte Hornets 101; New York Knicks 100, Detroit Pistons 93; Philadelphia 76ers 103, New Jersey Devils 94; Milwaukee Bucks 123, Denver Nuggets 109; Houston Rockets 122, San Antonio Spurs 117; Cleveland Cavaliers 124, Phoenix Suns 121; Golden State Warriors 107, Dallas Mavericks 106; Sacramento Kings 108, Los Angeles Clippers 104.
WOMEN'S RONCHETTI CUP: Quarter-final: Sparta Prague (Cz) 61, Traygros Pirelli (It) 80; Versailles (Fr) 85, Basket Parma (It) 61.
MEN'S CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Quarter-final: Fifth series: Moscow CSKA Moscow (USSR) 92, Maccabi Tel Aviv (Isr), 97.

HOCKEY

CRYSTAL PALACE: Buttermen Indoor League: First division: Bromley 6, Southgate 5; Eliot Grimsdyke 7, Tulse Hill 2.

CRICKET

SHELL TROPHY SERIES: Gisborne: Northern Districts 240 and 88 for 2; Otago 129 and 208. Northern Districts won by eight wickets.
Wellington: Auckland 333 and 312 for two dec (T J Franklin 133 not out, J J Crowe 156); Wellington 334 for 1 dec and 217 for 8 (A N Jones 66; D N Patel 4 for 16). Match drawn.
Christchurch: Canterbury 362 for 6 dec and 214 for 5 dec (P E McEwan 116); Central Districts 216 for 5 dec and 181 for 3 (S Briasco 100 not out). Match drawn.

GOLF

GOLD COAST, Australia: Palm Meadows Cup: First-round leaders (Aus unless stated): 66: C Strange (US), 67: H Mashal (Jap); J Maggert (US); P Foley, 67. 68: B Ogle; D Graham. 69: P Senior. 70: G Serhan; T Gale; A Gilligan; S Owen (NZ); P Fowler; G Marsh; C Parry.

BOWLS

COATBRIDGE: Coral Bingo Scottish players' championships: Semi-finals: C Sommerville (Blantyre) bt H Duff (Auchinleck), 7-5, 4-7, 7-4; A Blair (S Lothian) bt R Corse (Edinburgh), 7-5, 7-4.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Montreal Canadiens 1, New Jersey Devils 0; Washington Capitals 3, Toronto Maple Leafs 2; Chicago Black Hawks 2, Detroit Red Wings 2; Calgary Flames 8, Winnipeg Jets 3.

TABLE TENNIS

HONG KONG: Europe-Asia series: Third leg: Men: Asia 11 bt Europe 8, 5-4. Individual scores (Asian names first): Teng Yi (China) bt D Douglas (Eng), 21-16, 21-15; Lo Chuen-tsung (HK) lost to J Persson (Swe), 16-21, 21-23; Chen Longcan (China) bt A Mazunov (USSR), 21-11, 21-17; Teng bt Persson, 21-8, 21-21, 21-15; Chen bt Douglas, 21-15, 16-21, 21-15; Lo lost to Mazunov, 20-22, 18-21; Chen lost to Persson, 20-22, 15-21; Teng lost to Mazunov, 9-21, 17-21; Lo bt Douglas, 24-22, 10-21, 27-25. Overall score: Asia bt Europe, 5-4. Women: Asia 1 bt Europe 1, 5-2. Individual scores (Asian names first): Hyung Jun-hwa (S Kor) bt O Nemes (Hgy), 21-17, 21-18; Chen Jing (China) lost to D Guerguelcheva (Bul), 17-21, 14-21; Chai Po-wa (HK) bt F Bulatova (USSR), 21-17, 19-21, 21-8; Chen lost to Nemes, 8-21, 24-22, 18-21; Hyung bt Bulatova, 21-11, 21-10; Chai bt Guerguelcheva, 21-17, 21-17; Chen bt Bulatova, 21-18, 21-4. Overall score: Asia bt Europe, 3-1.

TENNIS

SYDNEY: New South Wales Open: Women's third round: M Navratilova (US) bt D van Rensburg (SA), 6-1, 6-3; C Lindqvist (Swe) bt H Sukova (Cz), 6-3, 6-0; H Mandlikova (Aus) bt A Frazier (US), 6-3, 7-5; M-J Fernandez (US) bt G Magers (US), 6-7, 6-3, 6-1; P Fendick (US) bt A Grossman (US), 6-4, 6-2. Men's second round: A Krickstein (US) bt J Rive (US), 6-3, 6-4; W Masur (Aus) bt T Tulasne (Fr), 7-5, 6-2; B Orsier (Yug) bt P Lundgren (Swe), 2-6, 7-6, 6-2, 6-0; Brad Pearce (US) bt M Davis (US), 7-5, 6-3.
WELLINGTON: Auckland grand prix tournament: Second round: R Reneberg (US) bt M Srejber (Cz), 6-3, 6-4; G Michibata (Can) bt H de la Pena (Arg), 3-6, 7-5, 6-2; R Krishnan (India) bt T Svantesson (Swe), 6-3, 6-3.

SKIING

Merle prevents clean sweep by Switzerland

Grindelwald — Michela Figini won the twelfth World Cup downhill of her career here yesterday, but the Swiss party was interrupted by French gate-crasher, Carole Merle.

The Swiss had looked set for a clean sweep but Merle hurtled down the icy Tschuggen course to bump Maria Walliser out of third place and produce the best downhill showing of her career.

Merle, whose super-giant slalom victory in Schladming in November makes her the only non-Swiss to win a race this season, had already posted notice of her downhill intentions. But she made mistakes, clocking a slow time on the top third of the course, and though she picked up speed she could do no better than third.

RESULTS: 1, M Figini (Switz), 1min 55.82sec; 2, B Gafner (Switz), 1:56.28; 3, C Merle (Fr), 1:56.56; 4, M Walliser (Switz), 1:56.82; 5, S Wolf (Austria), 1:56.91; 6, B Sadleder (Austria), 1:56.95; 7, V Wallinger (Austria), 1:57.17; 8, E Kirchler (Austria), 1:57.35; 9, S Eder (Austria), 1:57.61; 10, M Gerg (WG), 1:57.68; 11, K Percy (Can), 1:57.73; 12, R Moesenlechner (WG), 1:57.83; 13, H Zurbriggen (Switz), 1:57.88; 14, K Lee (Can), 1:57.96; 15, C Emonet (Fr), 1:58.11. Leading overall standings: 1, V Schneider (Switz), 232pts; 2, U Maier (Austria), 118; 3, Merle, 87; equal 4, Figini and M Svet (Yug), 84.

SWIMMING

World Cup meeting cancelled

Then there were eight. The cancellation yesterday of the World Cup meeting in Emmen, The Netherlands, at the end of this month leaves the inaugural series tumbling about the organizers' ears

When the international governing body, FINA, launched the series, there was much talk of a quasi-professional, international winter circuit of 10 meetings in North America, Australia and Europe. The reality has been somewhat short of that. The Australian leg, in Perth, was cancelled before Christmas and although the first two meetings, at Toronto and Indianapolis, did take place, the World Cup concept was coolly received by the Americans.

Yesterday, the Dutch organizers blamed the lack of quality and quantity in their entry for the latest cancellation. "Emmen was a meeting where their people were insisting that they should be on the circuit before they had any track record. We should have known," Trevor Tiffany, the Canadian who chairs FINA's World Cup committee, said.

THE TIMES First published 1785

THE TIMES
SPORT tomorrow...

Nine pages of the best of the action at home and abroad



Identity crisis: Moynihan puts his cards on the table



In the rink: skating for European glory at Birmingham



Sports book: a legendary rugby partnership



Schneider's star turn: a giant among slalomers

Britain's challenger lifts off for the big one





There were contrasting preparations for the contestants of next month's world heavyweight title bout as Mike Tyson, the champion, got himself into more extra-curricular trouble while Frank Bruno, his challenger, got on with his homework in Arizona (Jonathan Rendall writes).

Tyson, who was supposed to be in New York fighting his manager in court and his sparring partners in the gym, instead involved himself in a scuffle (left) with a cameraman after turning up unexpectedly at a Vancouver hotel where his estranged wife, Robin Givens, was preparing for a television series.

A member of the film crew, attempting to give Tyson an impromptu part in the series as he emerged from a lift, had his camera ripped away by the champion and hurled 10 feet across the foyer. The cameraman, who confessed he was "conceding 60lb", fled through the hotel's revolving doors with Tyson in hot pursuit, to be restrained by a doorman of more compatible dimensions. Charges have been filed with the local police.

Meanwhile (above) a stoney-faced Bruno continued his training at La Mirage Club, Phoenix, performing dorsal-raises and squat thrusts while at regular intervals his trainer, George Francis, dropped a medicine ball on his stomach.

American onlookers were then given their first glimpse of the straight British left with which Bruno plans to unsettle the champion as the Wandsworth boxer sparred for the first time against a moderate Miami heavyweight called Milton Bowen.

Tyson's latest indiscretion, combined with Bruno's assiduous approach to training, will only fuel a surprisingly active betting market for their contest in Las Vegas on February 25. British bookmakers report that money is being laid on Tyson to win in the first round at 5-1; and interest in a Bruno victory at the same stage has been such that his price has come in by 30 points — to 50-1.

Clarke to join Hibs if the price is right

Hibernian have confirmed that they want to buy Colin Clarke from Southampton but only if the price is right. The Edinburgh club have asked if the Northern Ireland international, aged 26, is available.

The asking price for Clarke, who has just returned from an on-loan spell with his old club, Bournemouth, is likely to be in the region of £700,000. It was the arrival of another international, Steve Archibald, at the start of the season that rejuvenated Hibs. With the prospect of European football again next season, the move could appeal to Clarke.

● Top Scottish referees Kenny Hope and Louis Thow have been given the support of the Scottish League. On Monday both were banned from taking charge of Scottish Cup ties this season because the Scottish Football Association were upset at their handling of games but the Scottish League management committee decided yesterday that both referees will have games.

Wallace swaps Spanish sun for life in the basement

By Louise Taylor

Jock Wallace, one of the game's most colourful managers, exchanged retirement in Spain for life at the bottom of the Football League yesterday. The man who took Rangers to two trebles during his first stay with the Glasgow club between 1972 and 1978 ended an 18-month break from football when he committed himself to the task of attempting to hoist Colchester United away from relegation territory.

He will be assisted by Steve Foley, who had been acting as caretaker manager following the resignation of Roger Brown two years ago and now becomes assistant manager.

"I regard it as a challenge. I fancy the job of getting Colchester out of trouble," Wallace said. "My wife and I had settled for retirement in the sun when Seville sacked me after 18 months as manager. She thinks I'm just visiting, and doesn't know I've taken the job yet, although she will soon — and she will be pleased."

At 53, however, he quickly fell prey to the itchy feet syndrome. "I looked for jobs with one or two English second and third division clubs," he said. "They came to nothing, but then about a month ago Johnathan Crisp, the Colchester chairman, contacted me and I couldn't resist it."

It may have been his first day, but there was no question of gradually easing into a new routine. Yesterday afternoon Wallace, a renowned disciplinarian and one time jungle fighter who used to make his players run up sand dunes when at Rangers, had all 19 members of the Layer Road squad out for an afternoon training session.

"I kicked a few backsides and I'm determined to find some sand dunes," said the man who is far from being just football's version of a sergeant major. While in charge of Leicester City he not only gave Gary Lineker his League debut during the 1978-79 season but also signed Alan Smith from Alvechurch.

He returned to Scotland with Motherwell and then Rangers again in 1983 following the dismissal of John Greig before being fired himself in order to make way for Graeme Souness three years later.

Now Wallace hopes to unearth further potential at his new club. "I was pleased with what I saw in training," he said. "Four or five young players have both talent and their careers in front of them. I won't consider spending money until I know exactly what is available."

Wallace, who has also managed Hearts, believes above all that confidence is the biggest problem confronting his new charges. "It reminds me of the situation when I took over at Leicester [who he eventually steered to the second division championship in 1980]. I know that we need to start winning very quickly. There is a lack of morale. My first job will be to restore that morale."

In the slightly longer term his objectives are "to avoid relegation to the Vauxhall Conference and have a good cup run to put some money in the club".

The task begins at home to Tranmere Rovers in the League tonight. There will be a reprieve from the slog on January 28, however, when Colchester travel to Sheffield United in the fourth round of the FA Cup.

By then his players will need to have learnt to interpret Wallace's hallmark — a distinctive Scottish accent as thick as fog on the Clyde. So strong is it, in fact, that he was reputedley sacked by Seville because he had trouble making himself understood and failed to master Spanish.

The manager himself professes ignorance of the reasons for his exit after 18 months in charge. "They sacked me four days before the start of the season," he said. "I couldn't understand it."

He subsequently declined a couple of offers from Spanish clubs, and last night claimed that he had no regrets. "It is great to be back in the British game," he said. "If I keep Colchester in the League I will have done a good job this season. But at least I've got a good pedigree on my side."

Austrians look to Streif for glory

From Iain Macleod
Kitzbühel, Austria

For just over two minutes today, an uneasy mixture of fear and sheer exhilaration will struggle to gain control of the senses of each racer who hurtles, at more than 70 miles per hour, down the most demanding downhill skiing course on earth.

The mighty Streif, resplendent under a cloudless, blue sky and surrounded by some of the most picturesque countryside on the World Cup circuit, lies in wait: it will not permit a moment's respite from start to finish.

Austria also awaits the outcome of the Hahnenkamm. Kitzbühel may not be the spiritual home of the nation's skiing, but a victory here, to follow the two pre-Christmas wins by Helmut Hoeflehner, and last weekend's triumph by Leonard Stock, will offer confirmation of their resurgence on the piste.

The omens are good. The four training runs have all been headed by Austrians; Peter Wirnsberger, the 1986 World Cup champion — he won twice at Kitzbühel that year — led on three, while Hoeflehner finished first on the remaining run.

There will be no complacency, however. For, when Franz Klammer, the most famous Austrian downhiller of all, was asked yesterday to name the most difficult part of the course, he replied: "From the moment you come out of the start to the moment you cross the finish line."

For Martin and Graham Bell, the two Britons here, there is the unusual situation of knowing that, providing they do not fall, one of them will depart Kitzbühel with a handsome silver trophy. This has been donated by a group who call themselves "The Honourable Cricket Club of Kitzbühel". Consisting entirely of Austrians, the 25-strong club, which was founded only four months ago and has still to play a game, thought the moment opportune to give some reward to the best British finisher at the Hahnenkamm.

That there are only two contenders seems inconsequential to the KCC. Martin Bell believed that the Austrian, Steven Lee, should also be considered, especially as there were no West Indians present. Bell, who has never played cricket, added: "One of us had better finish, don't you think?"

The KCC trophy may well be the only consolation available to the Bells. Martin believes the course is not as tough as in 1985, and added: "There's no other course that really makes everyone so scared. On other courses, a mistake may lose you a couple of seconds; here, you end up in one of those horrible wooden fences."

Leaders are in name only on desert courses

From John Ballantine, Palm Springs

Imagine, if you will, an Open golf championship in which competitors are required to play a round on a different course each day, say St Andrew's followed by Muirfield and then Carnoustie, with the qualifiers returning on Sunday for the final round on the old course. You will then have some idea, albeit in due proportion, of the unique difficulties presented by the five-day Bob Hope Chrysler Classics being contested on the four desert courses here of Bermuda Dunes, Indian Wells, PGA West and El Dorado.

Fred Couples led the event with a 65 on Wednesday at Indian Wells, where last year Sandy Lyle opened with a 64. Lyle started with a 70 that was not bettered all day at Arnold Palmer's PGA West, a positive minefield of sand, water and palm trees and swept by much stronger winds than those which blow gently on the other courses situated under the lee of the chocolate-coloured mountains.

Until it is seen what Couples makes of PGA West, and how Lyle scores this year on the 6,478 yards of the much easier Indian Wells, it is impossible to talk of leaders or to say more than that each man performed very well at his allotted venue.

A little known American called Jim Gallagher is also leading Lyle by four strokes, but Gallagher was the first man away in the still calm of the glorious dawn at Indian Wells. That in itself was worth three or four strokes, all things being equal.

All things are never equal in golf, however, and the ball has still to be struck well even on a pitch and putt course. Putting is always the leavening factor. Lyle missed five of under 10 feet whereas Couples, whom the Scot beat last year in a memorable play-off at Phoenix, holed four 25-footers and two eight-footers.

Some idea of the degree of difficulty at Lyle's course is also illustrated by his having to take his two-iron three times into the wind at longish short holes. He drove three times, too, with his one-iron into which he has had a much stiffer shaft inserted.

LEADING SCORES (US unless stated): 65: F Couples. 66: J Gallagher. 67: B Bryant, P Jacobsen. 68: T Armour III, J D Blake, W Levi, K Knox, J Benepe, D Ogrin, T Simpson, T Kite, G Koch, L Wadkins, R Lohr. Other scores: 70: A Lyle (GB), B Langer (WG).

Thorne staves off youthful challenge

By Steve Acteson

Blackpool in January is not the most inviting seaside town in which to spend a fortnight but these are halcyon days along the Golden Mile for Doug Mountjoy and Willie Thorne.

Both men held their nerve yesterday to reach today's semi-finals of the Mercantile Credit Classic tournament after being given testing times by younger opponents.

Paddy Browne, of Ireland, and Martin Clark, of England, were both playing in the first ranking tournament quarter-finals. Browne pulled up from 4-1 behind to 4-3 before Mountjoy followed his success in the United Kingdom championship last November by taking the eighth frame, for the match, on the black.

Clark went one better in recovering from 4-1 behind to force a deciding frame against Thorne, who had failed to reach a ranking tournament semi-final for 15 months.

Thorne began at a gallop, breaks of 45, 67 and 94 giving him a 3-0 lead before Clark, aged 20, and in his second season as a professional, made a clearance of 66 in the fourth frame.

Thorne's efforts of 40 and 34 then took him a frame from victory but a snatch on the final brown of the sixth frame wasted the opportunity of an early finish and he began to wilt as Clark produced a break of 63 to win the seventh frame before taking the eighth 69-45.

Clark, however, favoured a difficult pink rather than an easier black when he had a splendid chance to win the eighth frame from well behind and missed it to leave a relieved Thorne saying afterwards: "Martin is a good young player but it was my own fault that it went to 4-4."

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: W Thorne (Eng) bt M Clark (Eng), 5-4; frame scores (Thorne first): 76-55, 85-8, 107-11, 21-88, 80-56, 39-64, 26-77, 45-69, 74-45. D Mountjoy (Wales) bt P Browne (Rep Ire), 5-3; frame scores (Mountjoy first): 78-27, 57-18, 78-51, 63-78, 66-26, 1-78, 49-13, 65-61. Wednesday's late fifth round results: S Hendry (Scot) bt S Newbury (Wales), 5-1; J Parrott (Eng) bt S Francisco (SA), 5-1.

● The Matchroom organization yesterday reached a a one-year sponsorship arrangement worth £2½ million, with options for the future, with BCE, the Bristol-based table manufacturers. The Matchroom professional table will be made by BCE and sold and distributed exclusively by Matchroom throughout the world. Barry Hearn, the Matchroom chairman, said: "I am confident that sales of the tables will top £2.5 million in the first 12 months. This contract replaces our table deal with Riley Leisure."

Sutton decline agent's offer

Giantkillers Sutton United today rejected an approach from a leading football agent to represent them during their FA Cup run. Barrie Williams, the manager, said: "We have been so overwhelmed by the quality of coverage that Sutton would not wish to jeopardize their harmonious relationship with the media by the appointment of an agent."

● Arsenal have given Alan Miller, their England under-21 goalkeeper, permission to play in Plymouth's FA Cup fourth round home tie against Everton, now that the club has been knocked out of the Cup.

● ITV's *The Match* on New Year's Day between Manchester United and Liverpool drew the biggest audience yet — 8.1 million — for its live game screenings.

● Brendon Ellwood, a property developer, is set to replace David Hunt on Wednesday as chairman of Stockport County, after Hunt's resignation yesterday.

● Notts County have switched their derby match with Mansfield at Meadow Lane to February 4, to avoid a clash with the live TV match between Manchester United and Tottenham.

YOUR IDEA OF HIGH STREET PRINTING?



If it is, you'll find we've a few sophisticated printing techniques that'll open your eyes.

At Prontaprint, we've masterminded a revolution. The result is fast, efficient, modern quality printing at accessible prices.

With almost 300 centres in the UK and Republic of Ireland you'll find us in your local telephone directory - and we'll show you how we've taken High Street printing from the potato to the microchip.

Prontaprint!

WE'RE CHANGING AS YOU CHANGE

A MEMBER OF THE CORNWELL'S STATIONERY PLC GROUP

SPORT IN BRIEF

Epidemic all-clear

Seville (AFP) — The epidemic which threatened the equestrian events in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona has been brought under control.

The Spanish government is to lift transport restrictions for the Cadiz and Malaga regions, which were put in equine quarantine three months ago after 157 horses died. No new cases have been recorded since December 8.

In the groove

The Royal and Ancient Club, arbiter of the rules of golf, has set January 1, 1990 as the date for the compulsory introduction of new regulations on club-face grooves in major competitions. The R and A had previously said the strict 30-degree method of measuring grooves would not be introduced until 1996. Now all R and A championships will be subject to the ruling from next year. The ordinary weekend and club golfer will still have until 1996, at least, to buy new woods and irons which comply to the rule.



Steve Jones: first race of 1989

Pro debut

Mark McCreath, the Amateur Boxing Association welterweight champion, has turned professional. He will have his first bout on Pat Cowdell's January 24 promotion.

Hectic times

England's leading table tennis players face six hectic days of international competition next month, with international matches against Belgium and Turkey either side of the Leeds Masters tournament at Preston's Guildhall on February 10 to 11.

Spanish race

Steve Jones, the former holder of the world marathon best, has his first race of the year when he competes in the 10-kilometre international cross-country event at Elgobar, Spain on Sunday. Other British runners in the race include Eamonn Martin, of Basildon, the British 10,000 metres record holder, and Ashworth Laukam, of Birchfield.

Finn grounded

Helsinki (Reuter) — Matti Nykanen, the triple Olympic champion, from Finland, has influenza and will not compete in this weekend's World Cup ski-jumping event in Harrachov, Czechoslovakia.

Record entry

Steve Tunstall, of Preston Harriers, the former French Foreign Legionnaire, who has won international cross-country races at Cardiff, Durham and Mallusk in the past month, heads a record entry of 1,300 competitors in the northern counties' championships at Graves Park, Sheffield tomorrow.